



Kudos

Congratulations to [Land O' Lakes Board Chair Pete Kappleman](#) on being named "2018 Dairyman of the Year" last week at World Dairy Expo. Kappleman owns and operates Meadow Brook Dairy in Two Rivers, Wisconsin. He will celebrate 23 years of service on the Land O' Lakes board in early 2019.

Congratulations to Premier Co-op as they close out their [125th fiscal year](#), more than any other farm and consumer supply cooperative in the United States.

Calendar of Events

Oct. 22, 2018:
Cooperative Network Open House | WI Office
 Cooperative Network,
 Madison, Wis.

Nov. 13-14, 2018:
Cooperative Network Annual Meeting
 Radisson Hotel, La Crosse,
 Wis.

Do you have Co-op Kudos you'd like to see included in *Cooperative Network News*? Or does someone you know want to

Cooperative Network News | October 9, 2018



Annual meeting registration deadline is October 19, don't miss it!

The deadline to register for the annual meeting is Friday, October 19. Register now to take advantage of the early bird discount. New this year! Register and pay by credit card online. [Click here](#) to register online or download the agenda, board nomination and registration materials. You still have the ability to register via email/mail/fax. Please contact [Dawn Bausch](#) or call 608-258-4390 with any questions.

Join us in honoring the Cooperative Builder Award winners

The following individuals have been selected to receive the 2018 Cooperative Builder Award:

- Tim Diemert, nominated on behalf of Allied Cooperative
- Wade Hensel, nominated on behalf of BENCO Electric Cooperative
- Joan Wade, nominated on behalf of CESA Statewide Network (Wisconsin Cooperative Educational Service Agencies)

Join us in honoring these recipients at the Cooperative Builder Award banquet on November 13 in conjunction with the Cooperative Network Annual Meeting.

We want you! Cooperative Network board nominations being accepted

Cooperative Network is accepting nominations for the board of directors. [Click here](#) for nomination information. Please contact [Dawn Bausch](#) or call 608-258-4390 with any questions.

Donated items needed for PAC auctions at Cooperative Network annual meeting

Cooperative Network's annual meeting will once again feature activities to raise funds for the organization's political action committees. Live and silent auctions will be held at the Cooperative Network annual meeting November 13-14 in La Crosse, Wisconsin. For Co-op PAC (MN) donations, please contact [Patrick Murray](#) or call (651) 280-4901 and for COOP (WI) donations please contact [David Ward](#) or call (608) 258-4414.

Regional & Federal

Cooperative Network discusses Dairy Revenue Protection Program at World Dairy Expo

Last week, the American Dairy Coalition's Dairy Outlook Forum was held in conjunction with World Dairy Expo in Madison. Cooperative Network had the

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opportunity to discuss the Dairy Revenue Protection program (RP) with John Newton from the American Farm Bureau Federation at this event. Newton explained that Dairy RP has been approved by the United States Department of Agriculture's Risk Management Agency and that it is a federally reinsured crop insurance program that will be available through authorized crop insurance agents. Producers who purchase Dairy RP will have their premiums subsidized similar to crop insurance but there will be no payment limitations with Dairy RP.

Dairy RP is designed to insure against unexpected declines in quarterly revenue from milk sales. [Applications for Dairy RP](#) for the first quarter of 2019 can be made starting today, with the deadline for purchasing the first quarter of 2019 set for December 15, 2018. Premium payment for the first quarter of 2019 will be due in April of 2019.

At Cooperative Network's Federal Dairy Issues Forum that was held last October, John Newton informed our attendees about a proposed insurance product based on milk revenue, which would improve the ability of dairy farmers to better manage their farm's risk. Newton had hopes that the Dairy Revenue Protection program would be available in 2018 for the production year 2019.

21st Annual Farmer Cooperatives Conference to be held in St. Paul next month

Retaining talent, leveraging sustainability for competitive advantage, and CEO succession planning are just a few of the topics that will be addressed at this year's [Farmer Cooperatives Conference](#). The Farmer Cooperatives Conference provides a forum to gain insight into these issues and give your cooperative the edge it needs to compete. The conference will be held from November 7-9 at the Intercontinental Riverfront in St. Paul, MN. Cooperative Network is part of the national planning committee for this conference, together with representatives from diverse cooperative, agribusiness and academic sectors. Kristin Olson, Cooperative Network Member Support & Education Coordinator will be in attendance. If you would like to register or have any questions about the event, please contact the UW Center for Cooperatives at info@uwcc.wisc.edu or (608) 262-3251.

Credit Union Rock Stars announced by CUNA

Each year, Credit Union Magazine - a publication of the Credit Union National Association (CUNA) - issues a [special supplement](#) to highlight the U.S. credit union movement's "movers and shakers" - leaders who advance the mission and purpose of credit unions in all they do. Wisconsin and Minnesota had several credit union employees who were honored.

Transporters of livestock and insects not required to have an ELD through December 7

President Donald Trump recently signed a spending bill into law that included funding via Continuing Resolution (CR) through December 7, 2018. A statutory exemption was also extended by the CR that transporters of livestock and insects are not required to have an Electronic Logging Device (ELD) through December 7. This exemption will remain in place until further notice and drivers do not need to carry any documentation regarding this exemption. The [ELD rule](#) was Congressionally-mandated and included in the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), which was signed into law by former President Barack Obama during the summer of 2012. The purpose of an ELD is to synchronize with a vehicle engine to automatically record driving time as it relates to hours-of-service. The ELD final rule does not change any of the basic hours-of-service rules or exceptions.

Minnesota

40 Square Cooperative Solutions community meetings continue in upcoming weeks

Community informational meetings for 40 Square Cooperative Solutions will

continue throughout the state in the upcoming weeks. These events provide information regarding the co-op and their health plan offerings for Minnesota's agricultural community. Open enrollment begins on Nov. 1 and will run through Dec. 19. Feel free to help spread the word by informing your members about this option and the opportunity to learn more by attending one of these gatherings:

- Oct. 22, 7 p.m. – Venture's Bar & Grill, 104 Amber Avenue South, Fosston
- Oct. 23, 7 p.m. – Shooting Star Casino, 777 Casino Road, Mahnomen
- Oct. 25, 4 p.m. – American Legion, 600 S. County Road 20, Lake Crystal (hosted by Crystal Valley Cooperative)

Additional meetings will be added throughout the fall. If you have any questions about co-op membership, healthcare options, open enrollment, additional ways you can inform your members, or the upcoming community meetings, please contact (844) 205-9579 or visit the [40 Square website](#).

40 Square Cooperative Solutions was founded in 2009 by Cooperative Network and several co-op members to advocate for new health coverage options for farmers and their families. One of Cooperative Network's top priorities during the 2017 legislative session was to advance legislation allowing for the establishment of an agriculture cooperative health coverage option. We are proud of this major legislative accomplishment that has enabled these two farmer-led health care co-ops to become a reality.

October 15 signals start of "Cold Weather Rule"

Minnesota's "[Cold-Weather Rule](#)" is set to go into effect next week on Monday, October 15 and runs through April 15, 2019. The Cold Weather Rule was put into place to ensure homes are heated by their utilities all winter long and to avoid disconnection. To prevent disconnection, customers must contact their utility to establish and maintain a monthly payment plan. The Cold Weather Rule does not cover consumers who use propane, fuel oil, or wood to heat their homes. For additional information on the Cold Weather Rule, please contact the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission at (651) 296-0406 or (800) 657-3782.

New leadership named at Minnesota Department of Agriculture

Agriculture Commissioner Dave Frederickson recently announced new appointments to his leadership team at the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA). Frederickson named Andrea Vaubel as the agency's Deputy Commissioner. Vaubel replaces former Deputy Commissioner Matt Wohlman, who took a position with Cooperative Network member Land O' Lakes, Inc. as their new Senior Director of State and Industry Affairs. Vaubel has served as Assistant Commissioner at the MDA since 2016 and has worked in the Commissioner's office since 2013. Frederickson also named Whitney Place to serve as Assistant Commissioner to oversee the Ag Marketing and Development and Plant Protection Divisions. Place has been with the department since 2012, most recently as Director of Government Relations. Policy Specialist Craig McDonnell has been promoted to the position of Director of Government Relations.

Wisconsin

7th Annual UW Discovery Farms Conference

UW Discovery Farms will be having its [7th Annual Discovery Farms Conference](#) on Wednesday December 12 at the Glacier Canyon Conference Center in Wisconsin Dells. Water quality, the use and effects of cover crops and manure and tillage practices are among the topics discussed by researchers from Purdue, Iowa State and the University of Wisconsin. UW Discovery Farms, is a research and outreach program focused on the relationship between agriculture and water quality. The program is unique in that it conducts research on privately-owned farms throughout

Wisconsin. UW Discovery Farms works with the U.S. Geological Survey to gather credible and unbiased water quality information from monitored sites. UW Discovery Farms is governed by a Steering Committee which Cooperative Network is part of. The Steering Committee identifies program priorities and participates in the selection of research locations.

Legislature to call extraordinary session starting on November 12

Senate Majority Leader Scott Fitzgerald (R – Juneau) recently announced that the legislature will call itself into Extraordinary Session on November 12 to take up [legislation](#) to provide tax credits for Kimberly-Clark in the city of Neenah and village of Fox Crossing. The bill passed the Assembly on February 22 by a vote of 59-37. Fitzgerald said the Senate will hold a public hearing and a vote will be held on the Senate floor in later in November. Sen. Fitzgerald also indicated that the Extraordinary Session will only consist of the Kimberly-Clark tax incentive package, however Speaker Robin Vos (R – Rochester) has stated that he is open to taking up additional legislation beyond the Kimberly-Clark tax incentive package.

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