



Chris Danou's Capitol Report
Celebrate Our Community at the County Fair

Summer is a special time in our community and throughout Wisconsin. With just about every community having its own parade or festival, as well as other celebratory events, there's always something fun to do and going on.

This past weekend, I had another enjoyable year at the Trempealeau County Fair. I always enjoy catching up with old friends and connecting with new people. Aside from the usual fair activities, some highlights for me was recording an episode of my Capitol Report show on TCCTV and selling milkshakes with the Farm Bureau.

One of my favorite parts of the fair are the conversations I have with people from all over Trempealeau County. Those chats give me an excellent chance to visit with constituents and hear what's on their minds about what's happening in Madison. Depending on who you talk to, sometimes people express satisfaction and sometimes they express disappointment or concern. Either way, hearing from you helps make me a better voice for all of us in the State Assembly.

Based upon the conversations I had, it's pretty clear that people have legitimate concerns about issues related to public education, roads, health care, state parks and other matters facing the state. Obviously, people have their own political leanings and feelings (as do I) when it comes to each issue. However, we need to get back to the basics in Wisconsin and make an effort to put partisan politics aside.

We need to make sure we invest in things that put us on a responsible path for the future. We need to make sure we honor our traditions that make us a desirable place to live and raise a family. We need to make sure we protect the natural resources that contribute to our unique scenery and high-quality of life. Most importantly, we need to remember we are one state and we need all regions to do well just as much as we need our own community to succeed.

Whether people agree, disagree or have questions, concerns or differences, their feelings and thoughts come from the same place. They want to make sure we continue moving forward and we are able to keep up in the highly competitive 21st century. My wife and I want our two sons to have even more opportunities than we did, but in order to make that happen, we need to make sure we're thinking long-term with our legislative decisions. In order to do that, we need to not only remember our past, but also take a moment to recognize our community and keep in mind all the great things we have going for us. The county fair is a great time and place to do just that.

County fairs truly are a chance for us to come together and celebrate our culture, identity and community. I'm glad I had the chance to talk with so many people last weekend at the Trempealeau County Fair and I look forward to doing the same at the Buffalo and Jackson County fairs the weekend of August 5-7. For more information about these events, please visit: <http://www.buffalocountyfairwi.com/> and <http://www.jacksoncountyfairwi.com>. I hope to see you there and please feel free to come up and say hello!

