



Langlade County Farm Bureau

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Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

Shawano' County Farm Bureau's Kristi Fiedler Wins WFBF Discussion Meet

Congratulations to Kristi Fiedler, a Shawano County Farm Bureau YFA member, winner of the 2016 WFBF Young Farmer and Agriculturalist Discussion Meet at the WFBF Annual Meeting and YFA Conference on December 2-5 in Wisconsin Dells.

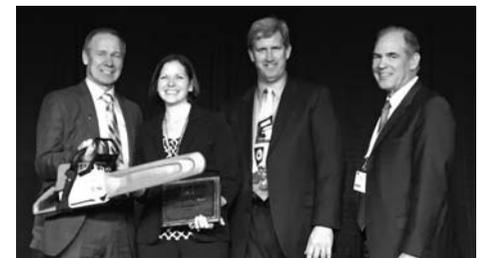
The Discussion Meet consists of a discussion panel where Farm Bureau members between the ages of 18 and 35 are judged on their ability to express ideas and opinions to reach a solution on agricultural issues.

Kristi is associate vice president of U.S. Technical Services for Genex. She earned a bachelor's degree in animal science from UW-Platteville and a master's degree in management from the University of Phoenix. She served on the YFA Committee from 2013 to 2015 with her husband, Brian.

Kristi received a chain saw from Midwest Stihl and a free financial plan, provided by Rural Mutual Insurance.

In January, Kristi is representing Wisconsin and competing in the national Discussion Meet at the American Farm Bureau Federation's 98th Annual Conference in Phoenix, Arizona.

She also qualifies for the YFA trip to Washington, D.C., in 2018; as a guest of the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation during the 2017 WFBF Annual Meeting and YFA Conference and in August of 2017, as a special guest at the annual meeting of GROWMARK, Inc., in Chicago.



WFBF President Jim Holte, Kevin Malchine from Growmark and Peter Pelizza from Rural Mutual Insurance presented Kristi Fiedler with a Stihl chain saw and other prizes as winner of the 2016 WFBF YFA Discussion Meet.

Meet Adam Kuczer, the New District 7 Board Director



Adam Kuczer and his wife Becky have five children including: Nicholas, 11; Sawyer, 9; Clara, 6; Cadence, 6; and Andrew, 3.

County near Pulaski. The crops include corn, soybeans, wheat and alfalfa.

Adam was elected to serve a three-year term on the WFBF Board of Directors representing District 7 (Langlade, Marinette, Oconto, Outagamie, Shawano and Waupaca counties).

He succeeds Wayne Staidl of Peshtigo, who retired from the board in December after 17 years of service.

The family custom raises 270 heifers and grows crops on 900 acres in Shawano

Plan to Attend Ag Day at the Capitol

Join us for Ag Day at the Capitol on **March 8** at the Monona Terrace Conference Center in Madison. Get out and support agriculture with your legislators. Be the voice that makes a difference.

The Langlade County Farm Bureau will cover your cost to attend this one-day event. The schedule for the day is:

- 11 a.m. - Registration
- 11:30 a.m. - Opening program
- 11:45 a.m. - Lunch
- 12:45 p.m. - Legislative briefings
- 3 p.m. - Leave for Capitol visits

For more information or to register by **March 3**, please contact Tom Houdek at 715.627.2156 or tomhoud@msn.com. We will arrange to car pool to the event.





COUNTYnews

LANGLADE COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION

Langlade County Farm Bureau Members Celebrate Success at Annual Meeting



WSAW TV meteorologist Mark Holley made the weather come alive at the Langlade County Farm Bureau annual meeting.

The Langlade County Farm Bureau annual meeting was on October 19 at the Fairgrounds Clover Room in Antigo. There was an excellent turnout with 37 members and guests.

WSAW TV meteorologist Mark Holley talked about his experiences in agriculture and the weather before a delicious chicken dinner provided by Insight FS and prepared at FS Fast Stop.

Other guest speakers included members of the Wisconsin 4-H Council: Mitch Schroepfer, Olivia Zern and Abby Luerssen; as well as Land Conservation Department Administrator, Marie Graupner, and WFBF Chief Administrative Officer Dale Beaty.

Two Langlade County Farm Bureau bylaw changes were adopted changing the board of director's representation districts and renaming the women's committee to the promotion and education committee.

Elections were held for directors: Dick Bolen, Jake Bula, Darlene Eckerman, Dale Fronck, Mary Fronck, Tom Houdek, Jim Jansen, Samantha Schuessler and Christy Sveda-Schreiber. Others elected as promotion and education committee chair was Bev Brecklin and as Young Farmer and Agriculturist committee chair was Joe Markgraf.

Elected to serve as delegates to the WFBF Annual Meeting were: Dick Bolen, Jake Bula and Tom Houdek.

Tom Houdek presented the resolutions from the policy development meeting. The resolutions that passed were:

1. The current fence law should be modified to require livestock farmers to be responsible for maintaining fences to contain their livestock.
2. We oppose any general requirement that all streams or lakes must be fenced.
3. Due to variations in karst areas in Wisconsin, we shouldn't get a blanket regulation that would cover the entire state. Regulations should be specific to individual areas affected.

Our next annual meeting is planned for **October 18** so make plans to join us for another enjoyable and informative evening.

Tom Houdek
Langlade County Farm Bureau President



WFBF Board Member Wayne Staidl discussed transportation and other state topics. He retired from the board after representing District 7 for 17 years.



Members of the Wisconsin 4-H Council included: Mitch Schroepfer, Olivia Zern and Abby Luerssen.

Langlade County Farm Bureau Takes on a New Community Project By Dick Bolen

Please keep this date open: **June 8**. Langlade County Farm Bureau will host Music in the Park.

We will serve food and refreshments. Come and enjoy a good polka band while helping support the Langlade County Farm Bureau's many ag promotion projects.

We will need some help to make this a success. We will need pies

and desserts, so anyone willing to bake for us, we will greatly appreciate it.

This is our fundraiser for the year that will help fund: Ag in the Classroom, FFA Farm Forum and Food for America.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact Tom Houdek at 715.627.2156 or Dick Bolen at 715.623.6974.

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President's Message

The delegates elected at the county Langlade County Farm Bureau annual meeting in October traveled to Wisconsin Dells in early December to represent Langlade County Farm Bureau at the WFBF Annual meeting.

Attending were Darlene Eckerman, Dick Bolen and Tom Houdek. Jake Bula attended the YFA Conference.

The Distinguished Service to Wisconsin Agriculture Award

was presented to Sam Skemp for his outstanding contributions. Sam grew up on a dairy farm near La Crosse. He started his career with the FS system as a nutritionist in Coon Valley and served in several positions in the FS system. Sam finished his 34-year career as general manager of Frontier Servco FS.

Jim Holte was re-elected president of WFBF for his fifth, one-year term. Jim raises beef cattle and grows crops near Elk Mound.

Adam Kuczer was elected to a three-year term on the WFBF Board of Directors representing District 7: Langlade, Marinette, Oconto, Outagamie, Shawano and Waupaca counties. He raises heifers and grows crops near Pulaski. Adam succeeds Wayne Staidl of Peshtigo, who retired after serving on the Board of Directors for 17 years.

Tom Houdek
Langlade County Farm Bureau President

YFA Conference Highlights

By Jake Bula

On the weekend of December 3, I attended the YFA Conference at the Kalahari Resorts in Wisconsin Dells with more than 450 other YFA members from around the state.

We listened to some very impactful speakers including: Vance Crowe, Monsanto's director of millennial engagement; and Aaron Thomas, a high school football coach and principal with a very important inspirational message and story.

During the weekend, we enjoyed some very entertaining music acts; the Soggy Prairie Boys bluegrass band on Friday night, and the Tonic Sol-fa, an Emmy Award winning a cappella quartet on Saturday night.

The conference is always full of great information, plenty of fun and a chance to meet



Jake Bula (third from right) meets with other District 7 YFA members to discuss opportunities provided by the Farm Bureau YFA program.

new friends and reconnect with others.

It also is a great reason to get away for the weekend. I hope I get to go again next year.

Students Visit the Sveda Dairy Farm

By Christy Sveda-Schreiber

October 7 was an educational day for the Antigo Independently Motivated Students (AIMS) class. The students range from kindergarten to 12th grade.

My daughters Gwyneth and Cadence presented and answered questions during the tour from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

The girls chose to separate the class into two groups. They walked through the barn and taught students how the cows are milked, fed and cared for. The students also got to see some of the equipment and machinery it takes to operate a modern farm.



Gwyneth Schreiber introduced the Sveda Farm cows to the AIMS students last October.

They gave multiple fun facts, answered question and then finished with dairy inspired treats!

This is the second tour the AIMS class has taken of the farm. Gwyneth and Cadence enjoyed teaching their peers about our dairy farm and agriculture in general.

We hope that the students have a better understanding of how farmers take care of their livestock and of how important agriculture is. We look forward to giving more tours in 2017!



Cadence and Gwyneth distributed some dairy treats to the students after the farm tour.

District 7 WFBF Board Representative Retires

District 7 WFBF Board of Director Wayne Staidl announced his retirement during the WFBF Annual Meeting in December.

Wayne represented District 7 for the last 17 years.

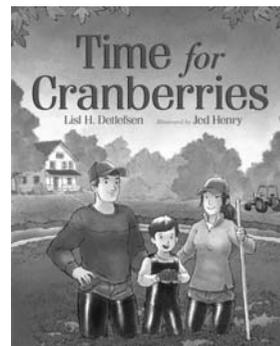
Wayne and his son Ryan own and operate a crop and beef farm near Peshtigo in Marinette County.

Wayne continues to be active in the Marinette County Farm Bureau, serving as vice president and membership chair.



WFBF President Jim Holte recognized retiring WFBF Board of Director Wayne Staidl and his wife Mary. Wayne represented District 7 for 17 years.

Essay Contest and Book of the Year Announced



Wisconsin fourth and fifth grade students are being encouraged to participate in the Wisconsin Ag in Classroom essay contest answering the statement, 'Tell us about cranberry

production in Wisconsin during one of the four seasons.'

Essay submissions must be 100- to 300-words in length and will be judged on content, grammar, spelling and neatness.

All contest rules, lesson plans and sample classroom activities are at wisagclassroom.org. Participating students and schools need to submit essays by **April 1**.

The essay contest coincides with the Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom book of the year *Time for Cranberries* by Wisconsin author Lisl H. Detlefsen.

The book and essay topic will allow students to learn about cranberries and the important role they play in agriculture.

One county winner will be selected and will be forwarded on to the district level. Each district winner will receive a classroom presentation in May for their homeroom or class.

A state winner will be selected from nine district winners in May by the Wisconsin Farm

Bureau Foundation's Promotion and Education Committee. As a treat for the state winner this year, the author will visit his or her classroom to do a special presentation.

Last year, more than 3,000 students participated in the contest. The contest is sponsored by Insight FS, We Energies and the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation.

Ag in the Classroom is designed to help students in kindergarten through high school to understand the importance of agriculture. It is coordinated by the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture and by a grant from the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection.

If you know of any fourth or fifth grade students who want to write an essay, please contact Ag in the Classroom coordinator Darlene Arneson at darneson@wfbf.com or 608.828.5664.

For essay contest information and rules, and more about Ag in the Classroom, visit www.wisagclassroom.org



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 - Life Line (NEW)
- Supplies and Products**
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 - Caterpillar
 - FS-GROWMARK Patronage
 - Grainger
 - Office Depot

- Communication**
- AgriVisor
 - The Country Today
- Insurance**
- Rural Mutual Insurance Company
 - Farm Bureau Financial Services
- Travel**
- AAA
 - AVIS Car Rental Discount Program
 - Budget (NEW)
 - Choice Hotels International, Inc.
 - Wyndham Hotel Group

- Financial**
- AgriPlan Medical Reimbursement Program
 - Farm Bureau Bank
- Protection**
- \$500 Reward Protection Program
 - Accidental Death Policy

For complete details visit wfbf.com/benefits-membership.

District 7 YFA Report By Brian Preder



Langlade Farm Bureau YFA member Jake Bula lines up a shot at the Skee Ball ramp during the District 7 YFA meeting 'ice breaker' during the YFA Conference.

Hello District 7 YFA members. As we start the new year, I hope that you had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

It was another great year of Farm Bureau tradition. In December, that tradition was easy to see during the YFA Conference at the Kalahari Resorts in Wisconsin Dells.

More than 450 YFA members attended the conference and listened to a great keynote speaker Vance Crowe, who shared his experience as the director of millennial engagement for Monsanto. He encouraged us to tell our story of tradition.

Attendees built on their knowledge during breakout sessions ranging from how to get the most out of Farm Bureau to getting hands-on exposure to some of the newest apps for agriculture. Attendees also networked and met YFA members from around the state.

Thank you to Kristi Fielder from Shawano County, Kristy

Erickson from Outagamie County and Kyle Much from Waupaca County for representing District 7 YFA in the Discussion Meet. Kristi Fielder and Kristy Erickson advanced to the Elite 8 round.

For the second year in a row, District 7 had a YFA member advance and win the Final 4 round. Congratulations to Kristi Fielder on winning the coveted STHIL chain saw. In January, Kristi will represent Wisconsin in Phoenix, Arizona, during the AFBF Annual Convention. Good luck Kristi!

Our first District 7 YFA event is February 18. We scheduled the annual Green Bay Gambler's hockey game as a joint event with District 6. After the hockey game, we will enjoy pizza and soda in the Indoor Patio at Green Bay Distillery. It is a great opportunity to meet fellow YFA members.



To purchase your tickets, please contact me or your county YFA chair by **February 1**.

Green Bay Gamblers versus the Sioux City Musketeers on Saturday, February 18; game time 7:05 p.m. at the Resch Center, 1901 S. Oneida Street, Green Bay.

Tickets
 \$16 - adults
 \$13 - children ages 4 to 14
 Free - children 3 and younger

As always, if you have ideas for events or want to help with a county event, please let me know. Stay warm and keep the Farm Bureau tradition alive.

YFA Report By Joe Markgraf



My name is Joe Markgraf and I am originally from Antigo. I grew up on a potato farm north of town, so I have been exposed to agriculture from early on.

During high school, I worked on dairy farms and was active in FFA, serving as the Antigo FFA chapter vice president and president.

After I graduated from high school, I attended UW-River Falls studying crop and soil science. I earned a bachelor's degree in agronomy and completed my course work in two and a half years.

Now, I am a Pioneer sales representative for Langlade county and the surrounding area.

I am a member of the Antigo FFA Alumni and support the local 4-H club.

My goal is to advocate for agriculture in our community as much as possible.



Langlade County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Tom Houdek 715.627.2156
 Vice President, Robert Fronek 715.623.2416
 Secretary/Treasurer,
 Christy Sveda-Schreiber 715.623.7097
 Promotion and Education Chair
 Beverly Brecklin 715.623.4153
 YFA Chair, Joe Markgraf 715.216.3868

Director, Richard Bolen 715.623.6974
 Director, Jake Bula 715.623.6779
 Director, Darlene Eckerman 715.623.2520
 Director, Mary Fronek 715.623.2416
 Director, James Jansen 715.623.6261
 Director, Samantha Schuessler 715.219.3854

WFBF Board Director, Adam Kuczer 920.609.0718
 District 7 Coordinator, Wes Raddatz 866.355.7346
 RMIC District Manager, Dave Meihak 715.630.4801

'Playbook' is a Great Resource

By Katelin Haglund

Are you looking for an idea for an activity and not sure where to start? Checkout the Promotion and Education Committee's 'Playbook.'



The 'Playbook' contains activities and events that other counties have held around the state for Ag in the Classroom, consumer outreach, education and ag promotion, fundraising, member development and policy and development implementation. The Playbook was created as a resource for members to share ideas. Look for the 'Playbook' link on the WFBF home page.

Do you have a successful event or activity (or even not-so successful)? The Promotion and Education Committee wants you to share your knowledge and submit your 'play' to the 'Playbook.'

We want to keep the ideas flowing and will update the 'Playbook' quarterly so the next update will be **March 15**. Adding a play to the 'Playbook' is simple.

1. Visit www.wfbf.com.
2. Click on the 'Playbook' icon.
3. Download the 'play' submission page.
4. Fill out.
5. Email to Deb Raemisch at draemisch@wfbf.com.

If you have questions or want help, please contact me at 715.210.5384 or katelinhaglund@gmail.com.

Humor Corner

By Wes Raddatz, District 7 Coordinator

Do we really need to find a 'Fountain of Youth'?
 It would be better to find a 'fountain of Smart!'

Did you hear about the origami store?
 It folded.

Why is your nose in the middle of your face?
 Because it is the scenter.

What does a dentist call x-rays?
 Tooth pics.

