

# Oconto County Farm Bureau

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## Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

### District 7 Green Bay Gambler Hockey Game is Exciting

By Brian Preder

About 33 Young Farmer and Agriculturist members attended the Gamblers game on March 19.

The night was filled with excitement when the Gamblers won in overtime.

After the game the group met at a local restaurant for pizza and soda.



About 33 YFA members attended the District 7 Gamblers hockey game in Green Bay.

### Promotion and Education Committee Meeting

By Kayla Steffel



Since the Women's Committee bylaw change to the Promotion and Education Committee and allowing men to be on the committee, they have been brainstorming ways to better promote agriculture.

I attended the 'meeting of the minds' on April 9, when they discussed long- and short-term goals. One idea was a new way to share ideas from around the state.

It is a 'playbook' in which you can record your event (successful or unsuccessful) either can help anyone planning all events.

We also shared ideas and activities that each of our counties do to help one another and also help others, like me, brainstorm ideas for future activities. Overall, I left with a long list of ideas and the new Promotion and Education Committee is off to a strong start

### Sign Up Now for the Dairy Dash and Stroll

By Ashley Schugel

The Shawano County Farm Bureau Young Farmer and Agriculturist and Brunch on the Farm Committees are organizing the third annual Dairy Dash and Stroll 5K Run/Walk in conjunction with the Shawano County Brunch on the Farm. This year it will be at Kevin and Shawn Bonnin's farm in Bonduel.

Participants will enjoy scenic views of the dairy farm including barns, dairy cows, wooded areas, crop fields and other events at the Brunch on the Farm.

To register, visit [www.active.com](http://www.active.com) by **May 30** in order to receive a t-shirt.

The online registration closing date is **June 23**; however, you may register in-person during pre-race packet pick-up from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, June 25. Race-day registration also is available and will start at 6:30 a.m. at the farm on Sunday.

Pre-registered individuals can pick up their packets the day of the event or the day before the event at the farm.

Proceeds from the race will provide food for the local food pantry through the Feeding America Invest an Acre program.

#### Race Event Details

**Race Date:** Sunday, June 26.

**Race Start Time:** 7:30 a.m.

**Registration Opens:** 6:30 a.m.

**Event Address:** Kevin and Shawn Bonnin, W3752 E. Slab City Road, Bonduel, WI 54107.

**Pre-race packet pick-up:** 9 a.m. - noon, Saturday, June 25, at the farm.

**Packet will include:** t-shirt, bib number, chocolate milk after the race and ticket for one free brunch on the day of the event.

#### Race Fees

	Before June 23	June 23 or later
Individual	\$20	\$25
Group, 4+	\$18/person	\$20/person

*No fee difference between runners or walkers.*

For more information, visit the registration link through [www.active.com](http://www.active.com) or the Shawano County Farm Bureau Facebook page.

Awards will be presented to the overall male and female winners as well as the top male and female runners in each age division: 12 and younger, 13-19, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59 and 60 and older.

Prizes will be awarded following the event. You must be present to win.



# COUNTYnews

OCONTO COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION

## Oconto County Farm Bureau Members Attend Ag Day at the Capitol By Russ Brock

At 6:45 a.m. on a nice, crisp morning I found myself turning on a snow covered Yarwood Road to pick up Lloyd Kirsch. I saw a pickup truck driving across the field. It had a dog box in the back so I knew it was coyote hunters looking for tracks in the fresh snow.

I'm glad to see them hunting to help keep the coyote population in balance. I know we have a bountiful coyote population and I wonder what it would be if not for hunters and trappers. We would have the same mess as our cities find themselves in. Just one more reason to live in the country. The next time you see a hunter, maybe thank him or her.

Lloyd was ready as I knew he would be. He is that kind of guy. Half an hour later we picked up Dave Daniels and Harvey Albert, fellow Farm Bureau members from Outagamie County. I'm sure you can tell that I am going to have an enjoyable day.

We arrived at the Monona Terrace Convention Center early, which is always my plan. It gives us time to enjoy a cup of coffee while conversing with friends and meeting new friends. I also was fortunate because Secretary of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection Ben Brancel and a friend also were early, so we had time to discuss how things are on the farm in Oconto County.

We had pork chops for lunch and told some tall tales with some friends from Marinette and La Crosse County. Then, we were briefed by Farm Bureau staff about farm topics. Some included:

- **Right-of-way in roundabouts.** This allows larger vehicles to deviate from a lane when going through a multi-lane roundabout. I already know enough to do this if the other vehicle is bigger.
- **Implements of husbandry.** 15 more changes to the law that was passed last year. They are minor common sense things that needed to be done.
- **High-capacity wells.** Believe it or not we have neighbors with high-capacity wells (100,000 gallons). A lot of large dairy farms have more than one well and if they have enough wells to equal 100,000 gallons per day that is considered a high-capacity well.

Presently, the DNR has no authority to give the permits to the people already in possession of high-capacity well to repair them if something happens. This seems ludicrous as environmental impact is certainly known. A new well? Well, that is a whole new story.

- **Piping of manure.** This is simply asking that townships have the right to give permits to pipe manure under their roads.
- **State transportation funds.** This deals with the issue that the highway fund is borrowing \$600 million in the past budget and we do not believe that we should continue to borrow money for this purpose. Therefore the following items are up for debate: vehicle registration fee (increase \$10-\$20), farm truck registration fee (increase \$10-\$20), toll road creation, motor vehicle fuel tax (5-50 cents per gallon was discussed, with a 1 cent increase bringing in \$32 million a year). The debate on this issue will probably not take place until after fall elections.

Oh my, it was 2:30 p.m. and we walked three blocks to the Capitol. Lloyd and I visited Representative Jeff Mursau's office, followed by Representative John Nygren's office and Senator Rob Cowles. We also went to Senator Jerry Petrosky's and Senator Tom Tiffany's offices and found it to be a busy day at the Capitol as most were in committee meetings. No, I don't think they were hiding from us. I've found that you are probably just as well talking to our elected official's aids. After all, if you get right down to it, they are the ones who write the bills and advise our state legislators.

At 4:30 p.m. we walked to the Monona Terrace Convention Center. Dave and Harvey arrived at 5:30 p.m. and we got into the car for the trip home, which includes ice cream in Rosendale. At 8:30 p.m. I dropped Lloyd off, thanked him for riding and for making it an enjoyable day. I arrived home shortly before nine. Guess what? Another Ag Day at the Capitol was history.

My wife's first question is always the same, "Did you accomplish anything?" I always say, "Yes, I made it home."

Thank you for reading this and I hope you enjoyed it as much as I did going to Ag Day. Thanks also to Lloyd for accompanying me.



Russ Brock and Lloyd Kirsch met with Senator Tom Tiffany's staff in his Capitol office.



Russ Brock and Lloyd Kirsch talked with WFBF Chief Administrative Officer Dale Beaty during the legislative briefing.

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## President's Message

I am off work with rotator-cuff surgery so I have time to read a couple of books and watch way too much TV. I have seen way too much of the billion-dollar dog and pony show which we call the Presidential-election process.

- Estimates one and a half years ago predicted a billion-dollar price tag for the elections this time around. It is definitely time to put a time limit on the process. But, at least, we have a process and not a dictator who forces 20 percent of the population to flee with the clothes on their backs.

- The weather: A few years ago there was still ice on the lakes up North for the opening of fishing season. This year some people may be done planting by the middle of May.
- I met someone from south of Denmark who said they had a cabin up North. When I asked where, they said, "Kelly Lake." It's all in one's perception of things.
- I guess the human race is not done with plagues. The Elisabethkinga virus here in Wisconsin and the Zika virus in

South America proves there is always one around the corner.

- I know I'm old but I heard today about someone who used a three-D printer to make a prosthetic leg for a duck. Guess I will have to do some research. I've always wanted a new nose!

**Dennis Jahnke**

Oconto County Farm Bureau President

## My American Farm at Breakfast on the Farm By Denise Langlay



Family fun and learning at the My American Farm tablets last year at the Breakfast on the Farm.

Oconto County Farm Bureau will feature the My American Farm project by means of kiosks at the Oconto County Breakfast on the Farm on **Sunday, June 12**, at Riewe Farms, 6947 Old 15 Road, in Oconto from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture's My American Farm project teaches agricultural literacy to consumers and the public through an interactive computer game.

more games. We invite you to take a journey and experience My American Farm's interactive games that will educate as well as entertain. Check out these fun family activities that you can do to explore our nation's most essential industry: agriculture! Best of all, the My American Farm app is available for free download.

Working together, we can further build agricultural awareness and understanding through education.

Players learn where food comes from and how those products get from the farm to their dinner plate. These educational games let students learn about agriculture while having fun. Games such as Amazing Grains, Harvest This, The Steaks are High, Load The Lunch Box and The Great Seed Search.

The kiosks are touch screen tablets making navigating easier and faster so that students may play many

## Shawano County Farm Bureau Women's Committee Presents the Kid's Dairy Bar Bake-Off

**When:** Sunday, June 26.

**Where:** Shawano Brunch on the Farm, W3752 E. Slab City Road, Bonduel.

**Time:** Registration at 10 a.m., judging at 10:15 a.m.

**Details:** There will be three entry age groups: 8-10, 11-14 and 15-18.

Prizes will be awarded for the first, second and third place winners in each age group.

### Rules

- The entries must be brought to the Shawano County Brunch on the Farm, Shawano County Farm Bureau Women's Committee booth no later than 10 a.m.
- All bars must include two or more dairy ingredients.
- Bars must be cut into two inch by two inch squares.
- Three bars per plate; paper plates preferred, no glass please.
- One entry per person.
- Write or attach name and age to bottom of the plate for each entry.
- The recipe must be submitted with the bars.

The winning recipes will be published on the Shawano County Farm Bureau Facebook page, website, in the newsletter and possibly other local media.

For more information, please Facebook message Angie Schultz.



## Oconto County Essay Contest Winner Announced

**By Kayla Steffel**

This year, fourth and fifth grade students in Pam Beshta's class at St. Anthony School participated in the Ag in the Classroom essay contest.

The theme was 'Tell us about producing maple syrup in Wisconsin' and went with the Book of the Year *Sugarbush Spring* by Marsha Wilson Chall.

The winning Oconto County essay by Lily Kurek, who is competing for the District 7 title, is below:

### Maple Syrup in Wisconsin

*What's better than drizzling pure Wisconsin maple syrup on your pancakes on a Sunday morning? This sweet treat does not come from a factory; it comes straight from Wisconsin forests and often from neighbors or friends.*

*The first step in making maple syrup is finding the right trees, gathering equipment and watching the weather. The sap needed to make syrup comes from several different kinds of maple trees, but the most popular one is the sugar maple. Sap flows between mid-February and mid-March. The tools needed are a drill, a hammer, a spile (also called a tap), buckets, large boiling pan and a candy thermometer.*

*A drill is used to make a hole in the tree two to four feet above the ground. The hole should be drilled at an angle to a depth of about three inches. A hammer is used to lightly tap the spile into the hole. Do not hammer the spile into the hole because the sap would not flow out. Next a bucket is hung under the spile to collect the sap. To make your sap into maple syrup, you have to pour your sap into the cooking pan and bring it to a boil. Boiling it gets out the extra water so the syrup can get thicker and sweeter. It also changes to a golden color. The candy thermometer is attached to the boiling pan to tell when the temperature of the sap is just right.*

*That is just one process used to make maple syrup. Every person may do things a little differently. Maybe you could discover even another way!*

## The H Is Still Going By Russ Brock

In the last newsletter you may have read my story about our Family Farmall H that has served our farm well for many years and just keeps on working tirelessly.

You may recall that I mentioned that the old H has seen many other tractors come and go.

One unfortunate example was an IH 5088. Dad said that tractor would really "burn up the field."

I don't think he meant that comment as literally as it turned out.



Russ and Raymond Brock with their unfortunate IH 5088 in 1991.

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For complete details visit [wfbf.com/benefits-membership](http://wfbf.com/benefits-membership).

## 'Farmland' DVD Donated to Local Libraries

By Kayla Steffel

In an effort to help teach consumers about farming, The Oconto County Farm Bureau board voted to donate *Farmland* to the public and high school libraries in the county.

Each library has a copy available for check out. *Farmland* is an excellent depiction of farm life.



Maryann Monette (right) delivered *Farmland* to the Oconto School library.



The Oconto Public Library also received a copy of *Farmland* from the Oconto County Farm Bureau.



Oconto Falls ag teachers and FFA advisors Amanda Lietz (left) and Ryan Weed accepted *Farmland* for the school library.



Gillett Librarian Kay Rankel (left) accepted *Farmland* from Oconto County Farm Bureau board secretary Denise Langlay (right).

## Humor Corner By Wes Raddatz, District 7 Coordinator

**If you can stay calm while everyone around you is in chaos and panic. . .**

Then you probably don't understand the seriousness of the situation.

**What gets wetter the more it dries?**

A towel.

**A reporter asked a man on his 97<sup>th</sup> birthday, "To what do you credit your long life?"**

"I'm not sure yet," responded the old-timer. "My agent is still negotiating with two breakfast cereal companies."

**What is a nuclear scientist's favorite lunch?**

Fission chips.



## Oconto County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Dennis Jahnke 920.834.4707  
 Vice President, Gordon Aprill 920.846.2465  
 Secretary/Treasurer, Denise Langlay 920.848.3891  
 Women's Chair, Kayla Steffel 920.373.0261  
 YFA Chair, Joe Porior 920.373.0026

Director, Russel Brock 920.842.2257  
 Director, Maryann Monette 920.826.7703

Oconto County Farm Bureau 888.377.0295  
 WFBF Board Director, Wayne Staidl 715.582.3671  
 District 7 Coordinator, Wes Raddatz 866.355.7346  
 RMI District Manager, Tom Gustafson 920.420.1106



Be sure and 'Like' the Oconto County Farm Bureau and YFA Facebook page for the latest activities and up-coming events happening in the Oconto Farm Bureau.

## Save the Date: Annual Meeting

Save the date for the Oconto County Farm Bureau annual meeting at 7 p.m. on **Tuesday, September 27**, at S&S Home-town Bar and Restaurant in Oconto Falls.



## Hungry for Brats? By Dennis Jahnke

Again this year the Oconto County Farm Bureau will host a brat fry on Friday, June 10, at the Pig-gly Wiggly in Oconto Falls.



Food will be served from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Old Wisconsin brats will be

Dennis Jahnke and Denise Langlay worked a previous brat fry fundraiser for Ag in the Classroom.

served with or without kraut along with hamburgers, cheeseburgers, hot dogs and refreshments.

Come and enjoy good Wisconsin summer fare, conversation and hopefully pleasant summer weather.

## 'I'll Get 2' Membership Challenge

Two Oconto County members who took the 'I'll Get 2' membership challenge achieved their goals.



They were honored at the 'I Got 2' District 7 Pizza Party held on April 18 at the Four Seasons Resort in Shawano.

Denise Langlay and Dennis Jahnke (not pictured) met their goals for the 'I'll Get 2' membership challenge.

Honorees included Dennis Jahnke and Denise Langlay. Congratulations to these Farm Bureau Proud volunteer membership workers.