



Winnebago County Farm Bureau

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your local Rural Mutual agent.

Rural Mutual Agents in Winnebago County:

Andrew Ballard (920) 233-4902
Jon Berger (920) 230-6886

Chuck Reitz III - District Manager

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

Plan to Attend the Winnebago County June Dairy Breakfast

Kevin and Kim Radloff will be hosting this year's Winnebago County Breakfast on the Farm on June 7, serving from 8 a.m. to noon. This will mark the second year that Winnebago County Farm Bureau, along with the Dairy Promotion Committee and Dirk Binnema (The Dutch Dairyman that bought a Truckstop), will sponsor and promote a Breakfast on the Farm.

The breakfast's mission is to enhance rural and urban understanding through dairy education, activities and promotion. Support raised through Breakfast on the Farm promotes agriculture in Winnebago County schools, Winnebago County's Ag in the Classroom efforts, and in other dairy programs throughout the year. Last year's breakfast at Silverthorns showed that in Winnebago County, there is a demand for a Breakfast on the Farm.

The breakfast menu will consist of eggs, sausage, pancakes, applesauce, cheese, milk, juice, coffee and ice cream. There will be farm animals on display, a tractor display, educational activities, children's activities and prizes. The Star Fire Family Band will be providing entertainment.

This event is turning in to a great fundraiser for the county. When doing an event like this, many volunteers are needed to help make it successful. Help will be needed on June 6 for set up and on June 7 for the event and clean up. If you can help, please contact Amy Zentner at 920.426.1056 or amy.zentner@aol.com. We hope to see you in June as we celebrate June Dairy Month!



Hosted by Kevin and Kim Radloff's Dairy Farm
Neighbors Feeding Neighbors

PRICE: Adults: \$7
Children: \$3

2162 James Road, Oshkosh WI 54904

Stompin' at the Shed Party Brings Fun!

The Winnebago County YFA committee organized a successful Stompin' at the Shed party on February 1 at The Shed in Oshkosh. More than 200 people attended the event! A special thank you to the Winnebago YFA committee for their hard work organizing the event: Charlie Knigge, Russ Kriha, Jade Buchholz, Neil Stone and Brittany Teske. The committee is already making plans for next year. If you having suggestions or would like to get involved in the planning process, contact Charlie Knigge at 920.379.3934.





MAY 2014

COUNTYnews

WINNEBAGO COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION

Institute Graduates Visit Washington, D.C.

Winnebago County Farm Bureau member Charlie Knigge recently spent a week in Washington, D.C. as part of the capstone trip for the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Leadership Institute. He graduated from the program during the WFBF Annual Meeting in December.

"I really enjoyed the opportunity to travel to Washington, D.C. with the other Institute members and visit with our legislators. It was an amazing experience and I encourage anyone interested to apply for a future WFBF Leadership Institute class," Charlie said.

The Farm Bureau Institute is a year-long premiere leadership training course at a graduate level whose mission is to produce strong and effective county Farm Bureau leaders. The training focuses on personal growth and development, public speaking, working effectively with all forms of media, creativity



The 2013 WFBF Leadership Institute class and the WFBF Board of Directors stood outside of USDA during their recent trip to Washington, D.C.



(L to R) WFBF Leadership Institute participants Doug Rebout, Charlie Knigge and Chris Pollack at USDA.

training, understanding the role and functions of WFBF and Rural Mutual Insurance Company, training on working with government at the local, state and national levels, working to bridge the generational divide among volunteers, consideration of current national and international agricultural issues and completion of a Farm Bureau Personal Development Leadership Plan.

To find out how you can participate, visit wfbf.com.

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District 5 YFA Contest Preparation Workshop

Thursday, May 22 | 7:30 p.m.

@ The Goose Blind
512 Gold Street
Green Lake, WI 54941

Cost: \$11 per person

Are you interested in competing in the Discussion Meet or applying for the YFA Excellence in Agriculture or Achievement Award?

Contests & Awards

If you said yes, then this workshop is for you!
We will be discussing all three award contests and giving helpful tips that will help you prepare.

RSVP by May 15 to: Becky Hibicki, District Coordinator
920.517.2445 or bhibicki@wfbf.com

County Annual Meeting

The Winnebago County Farm Bureau annual meeting will be held **September 24** at Wedgewood Supper Club in Omro. Watch your mail for more details.

SAVE the DATE

District Director Report



through the Farm Bureau Institute class has been challenged and has become a stronger leader and communicator. It is also extremely important for all farmers to communicate with our representatives this year.

I recently had the opportunity to travel to Washington, D.C. with the Farm Bureau Institute class. Two things continue to impress me. One is the respect that Wisconsin Farm Bureau gets from our representatives and the other is the leadership Farm Bureau continues to grow. We continue to grow leaders not only for our organization but for our communities. Everyone who has gone

Recently, the EPA made a ruling redefining "waters of the U.S." under the Clean Water Act. This ruling has grossly overreached the regulator authority of the EPA to many ditches and farmland. Although the EPA has offered an exemption for agriculture, I believe the EPA doesn't have the authority to offer such an exemption. If we accept this authority at this point, we also would have to except it if the EPA removed the exemption. Please contact your representative and senators to tell them how such an overreach would affect you on your farm. Representative Petri recently announced his retirement. I want to express my gratitude to him for his years of service to his district and to this country. I encourage everyone to have discussions with the candidates and vet how they will protect our rights as land owners.

I also want to personally thank everyone who has been involved in the strategic planning process. It is an important part of developing and prioritizing the future of our organization. A major part of the future and a way to also save Farm Bureau money is by using more electronic communications. In order to do this we must have your email addresses. I want to encourage everyone we do not have emails for to email District 5 Coordinator Becky Hibicki at rhibicki@wfbf.com with your info. In today's world timely information is key. Getting the information to you in the shortest amount of time is my goal as your district director.

God Bless and have a safe cropping season,

Kevin Krentz

WFBF District 5 Board Director

Local Students Attend Farm Bureau's FFA Farm Forum

Winneconne and Omro FFA members were among the more than 140 high school students who attended the Wisconsin Farm Bureau's FFA Farm Forum in Wisconsin Rapids February 21-22. Students were sponsored by the Winnebago County Farm Bureau.

"The Farm Bureau is proud to host this annual event with the FFA to help grow the next crop of agricultural leaders in Wisconsin," said Jim Holte, president of the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation.



Members of the Winneconne FFA chapter attended the FFA Farm Forum. They included (from left): Dustin Ulrich and Becca Kading.

During the two-day event at Hotel Mead in Wisconsin Rapids, FFA members attended workshops that covered topics including post-high school agricultural opportunities, current legislative issues and misconceptions about agriculture and biotechnology.

Joining Holte as keynote speakers at the event were two young dairy farmers who regularly engage the public on social media: Rick Roden of West Bend, a former chairman of the Wisconsin Farm Bureau's Young Farmer and Agriculturist Committee, and Carrie Mess of Lake Mills, who blogs under the name Dairy Carrie.



Jared Retzlaff, a member of the Omro FFA chapter, attended the FFA Farm Forum.

The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation sponsors the FFA Farm Forum in cooperation with the Wisconsin Association of FFA. This year's FFA Farm Forum marks the 42nd year the Farm Bureau family of affiliates has sponsored the event for Wisconsin youth.

Welcome New Farm Bureau Members

Azhar Al Gburi	Clarence Grant	Duane Radley
Derrick Allen	Richard Hurkman	Carly Rast
Jose Almanza	Greggory Kalbus	David Rennert
Brian Baerwald	Kristi Kolaske	Jeff Ruedinger
Benjamin Borgardt	Clint Kordus	Amanda Siebert
Bryan Brazee	Mark Luebke	Nicholas Skoglund
Gary Burr	Michael Mc Queen	Kyle Stapleton
Gilbert Buser	Donald Mcdonlad	Dorothy Szep
Paul Cook	Jeffrey Miller	Todd Trinoskey
Thomas Dallman	Gorgene Niemuth	Rebath of Central
Brandon Goertler	Shane Obrigewitch	Wisconsin®

Ag Day at the Capitol a Success!

Nearly 400 members of various farm and commodity groups attended Ag Day at the Capitol on Wednesday, January 29 at the Monona Terrace Convention Center in downtown Madison. It was there they heard from Governor Scott Walker about the importance of agriculture to Wisconsin. Members also heard from WFBF Government Relations staff Paul Zimmerman and Karen Gefvert who briefed everyone about issues including implements of husbandry, animal welfare, raw milk and more. Following a briefing session at the Monona Terrace, members walked to the Capitol and met with local representatives about topics important to Wisconsin agriculture.



Winnebago County members Randi and Cecelia Brooks at the Ag Day at the Capitol event held on January 29.

Rural Mutual Insurance Company and GROWMARK Inc. were major sponsors of the event. Cosponsors of the event with the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation were: National Farmers Organization, Wisconsin Cattlemen's Association, Wisconsin Pork Association, Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers Association, Wisconsin Potato and Vegetable Growers Association, Wisconsin Soybean Association, Dairy Business Association, Professional Dairy Producers of Wisconsin, Wisconsin Horse Council, Wisconsin Women for Agriculture and Wisconsin Veal Growers Association.

WFBF Women's Committee Collect Pop Tabs for Ronald McDonald House

In 2013 the WFBF Women's Committee and volunteers from their districts came together to help in a one day project at the Ronald McDonald Houses in Madison, Milwaukee and Marshfield. The committee and volunteers cooked and served meals, provided games and crafts for the children and donated food, books, toys, clothing and monetary donations. This year the committee will once again conduct this project in all three houses in addition to a Pop Tab Challenge.



What is a pop tab? Pop tabs are the little aluminum tabs from all kinds of cans: soda, some pet food, canned fruits, vegetables and more.

How do pop tabs help the Ronald McDonald House? Once the pop tabs are collected and turned into a Ronald McDonald House, they are taken to be recycled in exchange for dollars, which support the children and families staying at the Ronald McDonald Houses.

The pop tab challenge is a statewide project which began in January and will run through November with the final collection of tabs from each district being dropped at the WFBF Annual Meeting trade show at the Kalahari Resort in Wisconsin Dells this December 6-8. The women's booth at the trade show will have nine tubs labeled District 1-9. Attendees are asked to drop their collection in their district's tub. You may also drop off pop tabs at the Winnebago County Fair food stand or the county annual meeting.

For more local or district information on collecting tabs and possible prizes, contact Michelle Bula the District 5 Women's Committee representative at 608.547.2451. The real winner of this challenge will be the Ronald McDonald Houses of Wisconsin.

Farm Bureau Gives Free Chocolate Milk!



The Winnebago County Farm Bureau donated milk to runners at the Oshkosh half marathon and children's run on April 12 and 13. The milk received a 'thumbs up' from many of the runners.

Winnebago County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Jim Kasten	920.658.3036
Vice President, Randi Brooks	920.420.2634
Secretary/Treasurer, Dan Hinz	920.376.0371
Women's Chair, Carol Ihde	920.722.2961
YFA Chair, Charlie Knigge	920.685.5531

Director, Cecelia Brooks	920.420.3660
Director, Jade Buchholz	608.369.1044
Director, John Egan	920.379.3800
Director, Joe Hughes	920.426.5898
Director, Russ Kriha	608.436.4764
Director, Kevin Radloff	920.589.5515
Director, Nick Schneider	920.379.0720
Director, Brittany Teske	920.379.0419
Director, Amy Zentner	920.426.1056

Winnebago County Farm Bureau	866.666.8015
WFBF Board Director, Kevin Krentz	920.361.7380
District 5 Coordinator, Becky Hibicki	866.355.2029
RMIC District Manager, Chuck Reitz III	920.921.6402

District 5 Discussion Meet

The District 5 Discussion Meet will be held **Thursday, August 21 at the City Inn Bar and Grill in Berlin at 7:30 p.m.** Please contact District 5 YFA Representative Tim Clark at tclark@dairylandseed.com or 262.305.8733 for more information.

Discussion Meet Questions

1. How would the condition of government-managed public lands change if they were managed privately? What are the pros and cons of government ownership of land versus private ownership?
2. Should farmers and ranchers be held liable for possible food-borne illnesses when the food item of concern can be traced back to their farms or ranches? Why or why not?
3. The farm bill crop insurance provisions offer a safety net for crop loss

due to natural disaster and/or price risk. Should a safety net for livestock producers be developed, and what provisions might it include?

4. How can young farmers and ranchers work to encourage membership growth and member engagement for the county, state and national Farm Bureau organizations?

5. How should our nation's policies balance concerns about food insecurity against concerns about the safety or environmental impact of modern agricultural technologies? What role should farmers have in discussing and debating these issues in our society and with our lawmakers?

Question #4 will be used for the district Discussion Meet.

Winnebago County Farm Bureau Offers Scholarships



The Winnebago County Farm Bureau is pleased to announce that it will award two \$500 higher education scholarships. The scholarships will be awarded to two students (including graduating high school seniors) who are enrolled in an accredited college, university, technical college or FISC. All majors will be considered for this scholarship; however, priority is given to students enrolled in an agricultural field of study. Applicants will be judged on leadership, scholastic achievement (minimum GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale), extracurricular activities and future goals. Applicants must be from a current Winnebago County Farm Bureau member family. Applicants not receiving scholarships may reapply in subsequent years, but recipients of one of these scholarships will not be eligible to apply again. An outside selection committee, chosen by the Winnebago County Farm Bureau board of directors, will determine scholarship recipients. Winners will be announced at the Winnebago County Farm Bureau annual meeting. Awards will be mailed directly to the trust department of the recipient's school by October 15.

The application deadline is July 15. Please contact District 5 Coordinator Becky Hibicki at bhibicki@wfbf.com or 920.517.2445 to request an application.

Save the Date – Winnebago County Fair!

The Winnebago County Fair will be **August 5-10**. Once again, the Winnebago County Farm Bureau will operate a food stand. The fair stand committee welcomes volunteers to help.



If you are interested in helping, please contact Cecelia Brooks at moobrooks@gmail.com or 920.420.3660.

Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendar

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| May 22 | District 5 Mock Discussion Meet - Green Lake |
| June 7 | Winnebago County Dairy Breakfast - Kevin and Kim Radloff's Farm, Oshkosh |
| August 5-10 | Winnebago County Fair - Sunnyview Expo Center, Oshkosh |
| August 21 | District 5 Discussion Meet - Berlin |
| September 24 | Winnebago County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting - Wedgewood Supper Club, Omro |

GROW

Your future

Innovation, Trends and Best Practices in Sustainable Agriculture

June 22-26, 2014 UW Oshkosh

Students 16-20 will learn about agricultural best practices in this residential immersion camp.

Learning will be facilitated through hands-on experiences, farm and field tours, and classroom instruction.

register today!

uwosh.edu/go/grow

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