

Winnebago County Farm Bureau

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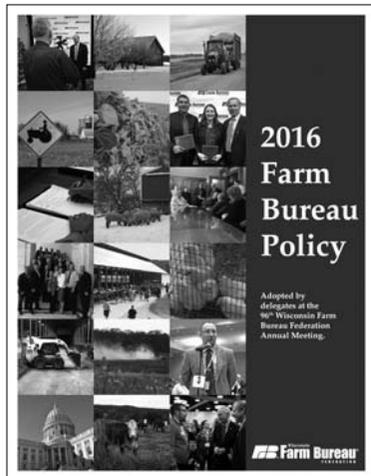
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Tom Gustafson, District Manager - (920) 420-1106

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

Grassroots in Action: Farm Bureau Members Approve Resolutions



The following resolutions were approved at the Winnebago County Farm Bureau annual meeting on October 13.

The resolutions will be reviewed by the WFBF Policy Development Committee.

The following members were elected to serve as delegates to the WFBF Annual Meeting in December: Jim Kasten, Randi Brooks and Rob Stone.

2016 Winnebago County resolutions:

1. We support the availability and expansion of all technology in rural areas that make internet access more affordable and accessible.
2. We support policy to require livestock owners to be responsible for maintaining fence to contain their livestock.



YFA Members Gather for Picnic

On August 28, more than 15 Young Farmer and Agriculturist members from District 5 met at Mekan River Outfitters in Princeton for a picnic and canoeing.

The YFA program offers many social events for YFA members to connect and network.

If you are interested in getting involved in the YFA program or have ideas for future YFA events and programs, please contact District 5 YFA Representative Amanda Knoch at 608.369.1091.



Tradition

WFBF Annual Meeting & YFA Conference
December 2-5, 2016



COUNTYnews

WINNEBAGO COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION

Winnebago County Farm Bureau Organizes Activity Oasis Area at County Fair

New this year, the Winnebago County Farm Bureau worked with UW Extension and area FFA chapters to organize an Ag Activity Oasis at the Winnebago County Fair.

A variety of hands-on ag activities were set up to give fairgoers the opportunity to learn more about agriculture.

4-H and FFA members volunteered for the activities.

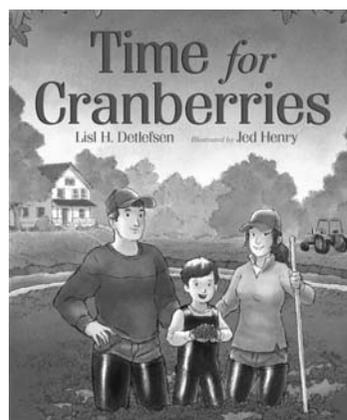


4-H members taught fairgoers about the difference in fat content of different milk varieties in a 'Milk Fireworks' project.



During the Winnebago County Fair, visitors participated in the 'Commodity Carnival,' where they learned about raising a hog and selling it at market value. This activity allowed participants to learn what costs are in raising an animal and what it takes to break even or make money in the market.

Ag in the Classroom Essay Contest Deadline is April 1



Wisconsin fourth and fifth grade students are encouraged to participate in the 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. Contest rules, lesson plans and sample classroom activities are located at

wisagclassroom.org. Participating students and schools need to submit essays by **April 1**.

The essay contest coincides with the Ag in the Classroom 2017 Book of the Year, *Time for Cranberries* by Wisconsin author Lisl H. Detlefsen. The book and essay topic allows students to learn about cranberries and the important role they play in agriculture.

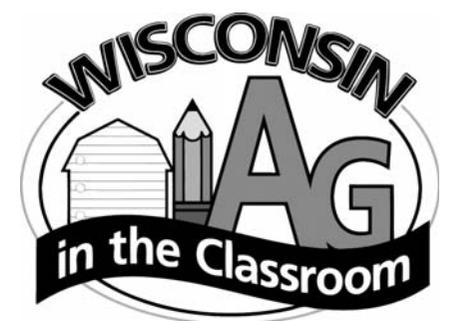
One county winner will be selected and will be forwarded to the district level. Each district winner will receive a classroom presenta-

tion 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 special treat for the state winner this year, the author of the book 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 understand the importance of agriculture. It is coordinated by the WFBF in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture and with a grant from the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection.

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



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President's Report



I'm excited about the opportunity to serve as the Winnebago County Farm Bureau president. I have served on the board for several years serving as the county YFA chair and last year serving as the vice president.

The Winnebago County Farm Bureau annual meeting was on October 13 at the American Legion Hall in Winneconne. John Egan and Carol Ihde decided not to run again for the board. I want to thank them for serving on the board.

We also elected three new board members including: Brock Baker, Dan Carpenter and Brian Poppy.

If you have any questions or want to get more involved in the Winnebago County Farm Bureau, please contact me. Thank you.

Charlie Knigge,
Winnebago County Farm Bureau President

Past President's Report



I'm excited to announce that the Winnebago County Farm Bureau has a new president.

Charlie Knigge was elected to serve as the county president at the Winnebago County Farm Bureau annual meeting on October 13 in Winneconne.

I have truly enjoyed the opportunity to serve as county president for the past four years, and I look forward to continuing to serve on the board and helping with projects.

As we wrap up another year in agriculture, we seem to have some trends that are common across the agriculture landscape.

When it comes to the weather, it seems that we have been in a pattern of rain about every third or fourth day. We must have rain to be successful, and yet it also can prevent us from planting a crop, caring for it properly to maximize yield or in the cruelest of circumstances, prevent us from harvesting a once promising crop. Unfortunately, some areas have experienced this problem.

Farm Bureau and other ag groups have worked on the Trans-pacific Partnership for several years and are close to the finish

line. It is a labor much like farming to build coalitions that will open markets to the products we produce in the U.S.A. Trade negotiations are difficult because as we open our own markets we could leave some of our markets at a disadvantage; however, we must look to the greater good when making these decisions.

The slow progress to move these deals forward in a contentious political climate is akin to trying to bale hay when it rains every other day.

The anti-trade rhetoric of the presidential race could be the flood that drowns our trade deals. Hopefully our politicians will come to their senses after the election and not do more damage to prevent deals that will help rural America.

Another trend that we see in agriculture that will require our resources is the misleading of the American consumer. In past years, we have been persecuted for the perceived mistreatment of livestock by videos that were edited to elicit an emotional response from viewers.

We have worked to reassure the public of our farming practices by adopting programs to assure responsible management. I would not have guessed that we would be defending plant genetics after we have patted ourselves on the back for reducing water usage, used less pesticides and herbicides and increased yields.

We have shown that the challenge of feeding the world's grow-

ing population is one that we can conquer. But the consumer says we don't care about the world, please produce food that will cost more at the grocery store.

It paints us into a corner of being the bad guy and that should make you want to sign up everyone you know to an organization that will put the truth about food production and safety in the forefront. We have the tools to change this by calling out the mis-deeds of those marketing our products by educating consumers.

A positive trend in agriculture is the rising number of ag producers who see that it has not worked to wait for others to fix our problems. These proactive producers are guaranteeing that we will have markets and consumers who trust us to produce the products they desire.

We have a wonderful group in our community that have taken on the task of making things better for agriculture in Winnebago County. We expanded our outreach to the Activity Oasis at the Winnebago County Fair to further this agenda.

Thank you to those who have volunteered. If you haven't, I encourage you to step forward and join this friendly bunch at any of our activities.

As always, agriculturally yours,
Jim Kasten
Past Winnebago County President

2016-2017 Winnebago County Farm Bureau Board of Directors



Seated (L-R): Amy Zentner, Jade Buchholz and Brock Baker; standing (L-R) Jim Kasten, Randi Brooks, Cecelia Brooks, Amanda Sandmire, Charlie Knigge, Dan Hinz, Brittney Teske, Nick Radloff, Brian Poppy, Russ Kriha and Dan Carpenter. Not included in photo: Kevin Radloff.

Welcome Winnebago New Members

On the Rise Bakeries of Neenah, Britni Adams, Phillip Barbian, Paul Beier, Roger Biechler, Michael Brazee, Lori Burr, Marcus Burr, Jeffrey Dodd, Lauren Eck, Austin Eck, Randolph Ertmer, Nicole Greathouse, Kendall Hanlon, Mark Hartman, Dakota Heried, Dillon Hess, Jeramiah Housworth, James Huntington, Tim Huth, Steven Johnston, J. Nathaniel Kaegi, Andrew Klemp, Todd Klessig, See Knaggs, Mackenzie Kuhn, Richard La Maide, Daryl Loether, Louis Long, Luke Loos, Lindsay Mahoney, Grace Mora, Dakota Moxon, Joseph Neuser, Nancy Oakley, Keith Olson, Timothy Popp, Brian Poppy, Dennis Radloff, Aaron Radloff, William Rasmussen, Kevin Rickhoff, John Rilling, Garrick Salzman, Sydnee Schneider, John Sherman, Richard Spanbauer, Richard Thomas, Kyle Trudell, Scott Visek, Tyler Volp, Jacob Walter, Patricia Wiegand and Jennifer Witak.

There are Benefits to Your Farm Bureau Membership:

- Auto**
- General Motors Discount
- Health**
- ScriptSave® Prescription Drug Savings Card
 - Life Line (NEW)
- Supplies and Products**
- Case IH
 - Caterpillar
 - FS-GROWMARK Patronage
 - Grainger
 - Polaris
 - Office Depot

- Communication**
- AgriVisor
 - The Country Today
- Insurance**
- Rural Mutual Insurance Company
 - Farm Bureau Financial Services
- Travel**
- AAA
 - AVIS Car Rental Discount Program
 - 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 Director's Report



Greetings! As you may know Farm Bureau may mean something different to many different people.

It is my goal to have Wisconsin Farm Bureau positioned to help members and county Farm Bureaus be successful in the many different areas.

Our governmental relations team is dedicated to carrying out the policy of our members. We have to

credit our grassroots policy development process in creating a comprehensive ag policy. Our governmental relations department also is critical in helping connect members with their legislatures. Having legislatures hear how particular laws may affect farmers is crucial.

The public relations team produces the communications with our members and helps promote agriculture with consumers. This includes the *Rural Route*, the county newsletters, *Ag Newswire* and social media posts and blogs.

I encourage everyone to include their email on the membership form. Having members email addresses helps in timely communications and in the efficiencies of the organization.

The member relations department is our biggest. They continue to look for benefit programs that will help Farm Bureau

members. These include Polaris, GM, hotel discounts and many others. I encourage you to look at www.wfbf.com for more info.

A major part of the member relations team is the county service program including the district coordinators. They accomplish the administrative tasks of counties, bringing a higher level of professionalism to the organization and allowing the county to focus on other goals.

The member relations department also includes other programs. Along with helping administer the promotions and education committee and Young Farmer and Agriculturist program, they also develop one of the premier leadership programs in the country, the leadership Institute.

Along with many other people on staff, Farm Bureau continues to help put our members on a path to success. The Board of Directors continue to look for efficiencies and opportunities in the organization along with taking on challenges as they arise.

Lastly, I want to thank everyone who dedicates their time to this organization. Farm Bureau would not be what it is without the many volunteer leaders. As we look back on our successes we also need to note there are many challenges ahead.

I look forward to working with you to create another successful Farm Bureau year next year.

Kevin Krentz
WFBF District 5 Board Director

Dairy Promotion Report By Dan Hinz

Thank you to the Rob Stone family for hosting the dairy breakfast on the farm. It was a successful breakfast. Money raised at the breakfast goes for youth education in the county.

This year, the county started an Agriculture Oasis at the Winnebago County Fair. Fair attendees could interact with youth and participate in some fun educational activities.

The planning for next year's breakfast at Omro Dairy has already begun. The Dairy Breakfast Committee has met with management from Milk Source and Omro Dairy. We are planning for an increase in attendance and we could use a few more people on the breakfast committee.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact me at 920.376.0371 or danhinz728@gmail.com.

We will have a chocolate milk promotion at the Race for the Light Run-Walk on **December 3** in Oshkosh as part of Oshkosh Celebration of Lights.

Soon the annual county dairy leaders meeting will take place with staff from the Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board and get everyone ready and excited for exciting 2017.



Winnebago County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Charlie Knigge 920.685.5531
Vice President, Jim Kasten 920.658.3036
Secretary/Treasurer, Dan Hinz 920.376.0371
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Director, Randi Brooks 920.420.2634
Director, Jade Buchholz 608.369.1044
Director, Dan Carpenter 920.379.3713
Director, Russ Kriha 608.436.4764
Director, Brian Poppy 920.295.9000
Director, Kevin Radloff 920.589.5515
Director, Nick Radloff 920.379.7540
Director, Amanda Sandmire 608.434.0117
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, Tom Gustafson 920.420.1106

District YFA Report

By **Amanda Knoch**, District 5 YFA Committee Member



I hope that everyone had a great harvest so far and that the harvesting only gets better.

I wanted to give everyone an update on what has been going on in District 5 for our county YFA program. We had a successful Discussion Meet at Christianos in Green Lake with five participants. Three of the participants will represent the

District during the WFBF Discussion Meet in December including: Sally Turpin, Juneau County; and Lauren Krentz and Jenny Leahy, both from Fond du Lac County.

District 5 hosted a canoeing trip in Marquette County that 15 people from throughout the district attended.

The WFBF Annual Meeting and YFA Conference is on December 2-5 at the Kalahari Resorts in Wisconsin Dells. This is a great opportunity for the YFA members from Winnebago County to meet with other young farmers and attend workshops and events to bring back to their farms and vocations in the county.

Thank you for your support and kindness throughout the year. I am looking forward to another great year. Remember if you ate today, thank a farmer.

YFA Activities

Attention YFA members: Mark your calendar for the following Winnebago County YFA activities.

December 16
7 p.m. Free Bowling and Pizza
Legend Lanes, Omro



February 4
7:30 p.m. Stompin' at the Shed
Brighton Acres, Oshkosh

