



Brown County Farm Bureau

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Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

Middle School Students Take the Plunge

Pizza Plunge, an Ag in the Classroom program, included middle school students learning about the farming behind pizza ingredients: crust: wheat, sauce: tomatoes and cheese: milk.

The event also focused on agricultural careers. The Farm Bureau Pizza Ag Mag was used to educate the students all the way from field to fork!



Students gathered around a combine at Phil Ullmer's farm where they learned about planting and harvesting wheat.

Brown County Farm Bureau Awards Scholarship

Each year the Brown County Farm Bureau awards a \$500 scholarship to a student who is furthering his or her education in an agriculture related field.

This year, the scholarship was awarded to Margaret Westrich, daughter of Rob and Jill Westrich of Greenleaf.

This fall, Westrich will attend UW-Platteville and major in animal science. She hopes to continue and eventually attend veterinary school.

Congratulations Margaret! We wish you success in the future.



This year's scholarship recipient Margaret Westrich.

Members Attend Ag Women's Summit



Several Brown County Farm Bureau members attended the sixth Wisconsin Ag Women's Summit on March 4 and 5 in Middleton.

The top-notch speakers and the networking opportunities make this conference like no other.

The general session started with a panel discussion on 'Women in Ag: Where We've Been and Where We're Heading.'

Other breakout sessions included 'OMG, GMO's,' 'Working with Legislators,' 'Eating and Feeding on the Go,' just to name a few.

The entertainment included a casino night where the women could win big.

On Saturday, attendees could start the day with a workout option, more breakout sessions and ended with Jerry Apps talking about the importance of writing your own story.

This conference is a great way to share time with other ag women who share similar stories and experiences.

The Ag Women's Summit planning committee invites women to save the date for the 2017 Wisconsin Ag Women's Summit on March 10-11 at the Madison Marriot West in Middleton.

For more information, visit wiagwomenssummit.com.



Kim VandenAvond attended the Ag Women's Summit and enjoyed casino night with friends.



COUNTYnews

BROWN COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION

Maria Vander Heiden is 2016 Brown County Fairest of the Fair

Maria Vander Heiden of Wrightstown is the 2016 Brown County Fairest of the Fair. She is the daughter of Gary and Wendy Vander Heiden and was selected from four candidates during the Fairest of the Gala at The Marq in De Pere. Performing the crowning honors was last year's Fairest, Heather Duquaine of De Pere.

Vander Heiden is a graduate of Wrightstown High School and pursuing a human resource management associate degree from Fox Valley Technical College. She works for Team Industries as human resource assistant. Her goal is to transfer to Concordia University to earn a bachelor's degree.

Vander Heiden was a 4-H member for 13 years and showed projects at the Brown County Fair. At the fair, she judges the kiddie showmanship, participates in the animal dress up contest, is active with barn clean-up, works at the 4-H food stand and assists during the auction.

She was involved in sports and FFA in high school serving in several leadership positions, earning multiple honors, awards and scholarships during her academic career.

Vander Heiden will receive a \$1,000 scholarship from Brown County Farm Bureau and Johnson and Wachholz Financial Services after successfully completing her term.

"As Brown County Fairest of the Fair, my goal is to educate the people of Brown County of the experiences and opportunities that Brown County Fair has to offer," said Vander Heiden. "I hope to teach them there can be a lesson learned in everything we do."

Katelyn Zeamer, of daughter of Daniel and Tina Zeamer, is runner-up fair royalty. She will assist the Vander Heiden with her duties

and attend community events. She will receive a \$250 scholarship after successfully completing her term.

Other candidates were Kaylee Coel of Hobart and Ashley Prue of Green Bay. The judges were: Rashad Cobb of Green Bay; Jane Sweasy of Green Bay; and Walter Taylor of Plymouth. The Emcee was Nate Stewart of WFRV Channel 5.

More than 80 people attended the crowning including Brown County Executive, Troy Streckenbach; and 2nd Assembly District Wisconsin State Representative, André Jacque. Rep. Jacque presented last year's Fairest of the Fair, Duquaine, with a State of Wisconsin Citation for her contributions.

Duquaine presented the Friend of the Fairest Award to the Pete and Nicki Van Deurzen family for their contributions and commitment to the Brown County Fair.

The Fairest and Runner-Up will make appearances throughout Brown County promoting this year's fair. The Fairest of the Fair will represent the Fair as media spokesperson and will be the official host of the 2016 Brown County Fair, which is August 17-21.

The Fairest will promote a wide variety of educational, social, and economic opportunities available at the Brown County Fair. Vander Heiden also will represent the Brown County Fair at the Wisconsin Association of Fairs convention in January of 2017.

For more information about the Brown County Fair or to become a sponsor of the Fairest, visit BrownCountyFair.com. To request an appearance or presentation from the Fairest of the Fair, please email Fairest@BrownCountyFair.com.

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2015 Brown County Fairest of the Fair Heather Duquaine crowned 2016 Brown County Fairest of the Fair Maria Vander Heiden.



Representative André Jacque presented outgoing 2015 Brown County Fairest of the Fair Heather Duquaine with a Legislative Citation.

Plan to Attend the Policy Development and Annual Meeting

As summer goes along, the Farm Bureau meeting season kicks into gear as counties host Policy Deployment meetings. These meetings lay the groundwork that members vote on at county Farm Bureau meetings, then approved policies and resolutions are sent to the state where they are looked at in committee before being brought to the delegate body to be voted on, which in turn become part of the WFBF policies.

I hope that you can be a part of this grassroots movement and provide input for policies and resolutions at the Brown County Farm Bureau Policy Development meeting at 8 p.m. on **Wednesday, August 3**, at UW-Extension in Room 161. Pizza and refreshments courtesy of Brown County Farm Bureau.

Also, because this is an election year, I hope to have candidates for the 8th Congressional district join us to talk about agriculture.

Save the date for the Brown County annual meeting at 7:30 p.m. on **Wednesday, October 19**, at Riverside Ballroom, 1560 Main Street in Green Bay. There will be door prizes.

Stan Kaczmarek
Brown County Farm Bureau President



2015 Fairest of the Fair,
Heather Duquaine won a Farm Bureau cooler.

Community Leaders Celebrate as Host of the Alice in Dairyland Finals

Officials gathered at The Cannery Public Market on May 12, to share their excitement and support for Brown County being chosen by the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection (DATCP) as host of the 70th Alice in Dairyland finals. The last time Brown County served as host was in 1978.

The news was first made public by Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection Secretary Ben Brancel in Dodge County before the announcement of the 69th Alice in Dairyland Ann O'Leary from Evansville.

Starting this summer, 'Alice' will make appearances at monthly agricultural events in Brown County leading up to the selection of the 70th Alice in Dairyland during a three-day public job interview, May 11-13, 2017. This will include speeches, media interviews, discussion of agricultural issues and writing exercises.

The 70th Alice in Dairyland will be announced at a banquet at Lambeau Field on May 13, 2017. The general public will be invited to reserve tickets.

Being a commemorative year, Brown County will strive to bring recognition to the history of the program, as well as the women who served in the role. Brown County has been home to two past 'Alices' including Kristin (Conrad) Collins (1992-1993) and Natalie (Parmentier) Killion (2003-2004).

John Pagel, owner of The Cannery Public Market, kicked off the event by sharing how 'Alice's' message of the importance of buying local resonates with his business, which strives to help consumers make the farm-to-table connection. Guests were treated to cheese curds from his farm made two hours prior to the celebration.

Brown County Executive Troy Streckenbach shared how the opportunity to host the 'Alice' finals will help to teach urban residents about the impact of agriculture on their daily lives. Agriculture accounts for 9 percent of the jobs in Brown County and includes nearly 90 area farms that sell directly to consumers.

Also, speaking was the 68th Alice in Dairyland Teyanna Loether of Sauk City, who made her final appearance as 'Alice' on June 5 at the Brown County breakfast on the farm. Judy Knudsen of UW Extension Brown County and Brad Toll of the Greater Green Bay Convention and Visitors Bureau provided details of the year-long celebration with attendees.

Neville Public Museum executive director Beth Lemke also shared the news that an exhibit entitled 'Alice in Dairyland: Wisconsin's Agricultural Ambassador' will be on display in 2017 to celebrate seven decades of the position. A ribbon cutting event and official opening is planned for March 2017 when the 70th Alice in Dairyland candidates are announced. Lemke and her team are inviting any past 'Alices' or someone who has a personal connection to the Alice in Dairyland program to contact them if



70th Alice in Dairyland steering committee: Back row (L-R) Deanna Schlies, Karen Gulbrand, Karla Voss, 68th Alice in Dairyland Teyanna Loether, Carrie Chastain-Riedi, Kevin Ress, Ray Tauscher; front row (L-R) Judy Knudsen, Polly Olsen, Nicole Nohl, Natalie Killion. Not pictured: Deb Barlament, Liz Binversie, Dave Running and Ron Van Dyck.

they have items that could be loaned to the exhibit.

A dedicated group of volunteers helped make this opportunity possible for the county. The steering committee includes Liz Binversie, Karen Gulbrand, Natalie Killion, Judy Knudsen, Nicole Nohl, Polly Olsen, Kevin Ress, Carrie Chastain-Riedi, Dave Running, Deanna Schlies, Ray Tauscher, Ron Van Dyck, and Karla Voss.

Steering committee director Nohl said, "We are pleased to showcase the diversity in agribusinesses in Brown County. It is a great opportunity to connect with our rural and urban families."

For this reason, the committee chose the theme, Agriculture Unites Us All. The project has 501(c)3 non-profit status through the Greater Green Bay Community Foundation. Additional sponsorships and volunteers are needed to support the nearly 20 events that are part of hosting the 70th 'Alice' finals.

For more details about the events planned or to get involved, please contact AliceInDairylandFinals@gmail.com and follow 'Alice' on Facebook and www.AliceinDairyland.com in the coming months.

Alice in Dairyland is a one-year, contractual position with the Wisconsin DATCP with a salary of \$40,000. She is a highly recognizable communications and public relations professional who makes hundreds of appearances to events, schools and with the media to teach the public about Wisconsin agriculture. Each year, a new Alice is selected from a group of top candidates competing for the opportunity, and, each year, a different county hosts the finals.

For more information about the history of the 'Alice' program, please visit www.datcp.state.wi.us and click 'Alice in Dairyland.'

YFA Discussion Meet Set

The YFA Discussion Meet gives young Farm Bureau members an opportunity to demonstrate speaking skills on agricultural-related topics. Contestants are judged on their problem-solving skills as they discuss timely topics with their colleagues.

Date: Tuesday, August 2

Time: Refreshments at 7 p.m.

Discussion Meet at 7:30 p.m.

Location: Altona Supper Club, 2306 Calumet Drive, New Holstein.

Topic: Today's food companies employ many tactics to gain a marketing edge. What is the purpose of food labels? How can Farm Bureau work to ensure that consumers understand the labels and have confidence in the safety and quality of their food?

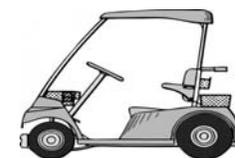
For more information or if you are interested in participating or attending, please contact Carley Blado at carleyblado@gmail.com or 920.418.2226.



District 6YFA member Stephanie Nagel competed during the 2015 Wisconsin Farm Bureau Young Farmer and Agriculturist Conference.

Register NOW For the Ag Open

The Wisconsin Ag Open is on **Monday, September 12** at Christmas Mountain Village in Wisconsin Dells.



The format will be a four-person team scramble and registration includes 18 holes with a cart, gift bag, food and beverage and golf contests, mulligan sales and door prizes.

The event supports the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation's efforts to expand agricultural leadership, 4-H and FFA program, agricultural literacy efforts and other education, youth and leadership programs.

Please note: We are limiting the outing to 144 golfers to offer maximum golf pleasure and pace on the course. Registration and payment are needed to secure your spot.

For more information or to register, visit wfbf.com/aboutwfbf/foundation/wisconsin-ag-open.

Farm Bureau's Institute Graduates Talk Ag on Capitol Hill



Farm Bureau leaders became lobbyists for a day while meeting with Wisconsin's congressional delegation in Washington, D.C., on April 13-14. The topics discussed were trade, immigration, wolves, food labeling and the farm economy.

Kim VandenAvond, Graduates of the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation's Institute leadership course were joined on Capitol Hill by WFBF Board of Directors. The trip marked the completion of the Institute, a year-long leadership training program available to Farm Bureau members.

"Being aware of political changes and how they can or will affect my farm and life are important to me. The Institute has helped me to think outside of the box when talking with my representatives. I was able to share with them exactly how their decision will impact me," said Janet Clark, a dairy farmer and Fond du Lac County Farm Bureau member.

While in Washington, Farm Bureau members met officials from the American Farm Bureau Federation and the U.S.

Department of Agriculture and discussed topics pertaining to wetland conservation, telecommunication and broadband expansion, food safety and national preparedness for animal disease. A visit to the New Zealand Embassy included a conversation on trade and the global agricultural economy.

In addition to meeting with Senators Ron Johnson and Tammy Baldwin and their representatives in the U.S. House of Representatives, Farm Bureau members also received a tour of the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives' chambers thanks to House Speaker Paul Ryan.

Members of the ninth Institute Class who attended were: Hannah Barthels, Milton; Amanda Carlson, Hartland; Janet Clark, Rosendale; Jayne Dalton, Endeavor; Erin Daluge, Janesville; Will Litzer, Marathon; Kelsi Mayer, Monroe; Bill Mueller, Wausau; Sarah Sacker, Browntown; Taylor Schuetz, Brooklyn; Kim VandenAvond, Luxemburg; Brad Weber, Marshfield; and Randy Wokatsch, Marathon.

For more information about the Institute, please visit www.wfbf.com and search 'Institute.' The deadline for applying for the 2017 Class is **August 15.**

Brown County Members Attend District 6 YFA Social and Bus Tour



Several Brown County Farm Bureau members joined Door County YFA chair Lauren Brey to tour different agricultural points of interest in District 6.

The members boarded the bus on April 8 for an exciting day of tours. First was the Eastern Wisconsin DHIC milk testing laboratory in Waldo. A local Dairy Herd Improvement (DHI) organization that has provided on farm management services since 1945. They continue to update systems to meet the changing needs of the modern dairy farm.



Staff analyze 80,000 samples per month for fat, protein, lactose, solids, milk urea nitrogen, beta-hydroxybutyrate and acetone and diagnostics for

Johnes, Luekosis and milk pregnancy.

Second was LaClare Farms in Pipe. On December 15, 2012, LaClare Farms broke ground on their new facility located in Malone (Pipe). LaClare Farms is a vertically integrated agricultural enterprise of more than 500 milking goats, a creamery, a retail shoppe and café.

LaClare Farms makes more than 33 different varieties of goat, cow, and mixed milk cheeses and is home of LaClare Farms Evalon, which won the U.S. Cheese Championship in 2011 and other award winning cheeses.

Four of their five children have joined Larry and Clara Hedrich on the farm. It is an educational experience for the consumer where they can follow a raw product from its beginning to end.

Third was Robinway Dairy LLC, which is a multi-member corporation owned by Jay and Pam Binversie. Located outside of School Hill, this dairy is expanding their business while simultaneously taking strides in reducing their environmental footprint. With the care of 25 employees, 1,150 dairy cows are milked daily and 700 steers are raised on-site. About 1,400 acres of crop land is farmed annually with 600 irrigated acres.



Robinway teamed up with Livestock Water Recycling Systems to install the newest technology for converting manure to clean water. It is clean enough to drink, but more importantly, it will reduce trucks on the roads and the amount of well water being used in the dairy operations.

Thank you to those who attended the tours and thank you to Eastern Wisconsin DHIC, LaClare Farms and Robinway Dairy for hosting us.

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Save the Date: Harvest Dust-Off



Join us from 8 p.m. to midnight on **Saturday, November 12,** for a District YFA Harvest Dust-Off at Twin Fountains in Manitowoc featuring the band Spitfire Rodeo.

Brown County Breakfast on the Farm

More than 4,500 guests enjoyed a hearty breakfast served by volunteers at the annual Brown County breakfast on the farm on June 5 at Hide-A-Way Acres in Greenleaf.

This year's host farm is owned by Dale Haese and his mother, Helen, and has 210 dairy cows and 11 full and part-time employees.

The event was sponsored by Brown County Dairy Promotions and made possible through generous donations. Brown County Farm Bureau donates the tent for the agriculture children's games.

Breakfast on the farm provides people of all ages to learn how nutritious dairy products are produced.

Proceeds are used to provide free agricultural education to students in Brown County schools and the community. Along with breakfast, guests enjoyed a petting zoo, farm tours, pictures with calves, education zone, a kiddie tractor pull, children's books and Culver's frozen custard.



Farm Bureau members volunteered in the educational tent where children could be a farmer for a day.

Upcoming Events

August

- 2 District 6 Discussion Meet, The Altona Supper Club, New Holstein
- 3 Brown County Policy Development Meeting
- 5 Leopold Conservation Award application due
- 15 Rural Mutual YFA Sponsorship forms due
- 15 WFBF Institute class application due

September

- 30 Membership Year-End

October

- 19 Brown County Annual Meeting, Riverside Ballroom
- 31 WFBF Annual Meeting and YFA Conference registration due

November

- 12 Harvest Dust-Off, Twin Fountains

December

- 2-5 WFBF Annual Meeting and YFA Conference