

Milwaukee County Farm Bureau

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Bill Kriese - District Manager

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

Summer Farm Camp Ready for 2014

Pampered Produce in River Hills (northern Milwaukee County) hosted a series of summer camps for youngsters in 2013 and is expanding its offerings for the 2014 season. Aimed at girls, 6-12, the weekly 3-day sessions include planting seeds, picking vegetables, story telling, hiking in adjacent woods, yoga and arts/crafts. Classes are led by Montessori teachers.

Study materials for last year's camps were provided by Gina Fritsch, volunteer coordinator of the county board's Ag in the Classroom project. Fritsch and Bureau member Karyl Rosenberg will again help Pampered Produce this summer.

Under consideration for one session this year is a farm-themed theater day, led by a master teacher who specializes in young people's theater.

For more information on scheduling and rates, contact Pam Percy, Pampered Produce, 414.315.1115, pampercy@aol.com.



District 1 YFA Events

Farm Bureau members ages 18-35, mark your calendars for some upcoming YFA events:

Young Farmer and Agriculturist Spring Fling Saturday, March 29

The Columbian (3245 Lighthouse Lane, West Bend)
Live music by The Mantz Brothers from 8 p.m. – mid-
night

Tickets: \$10 at the door
\$8 in advance

Sponsored by District 1 Farm Bureau

Contact Rick Roden (262.689.1038 | rroden711@hotmail.com) or Peter Muth
(262.689.2536 | petermuth@bertramwireless.com) to purchase your tickets.



Milwaukee Brewers vs. Chicago Cubs Game Saturday, April 26

Game begins at 6:10 p.m.

Watch your mailbox for further details on price and tickets.



2014 Ag in the Classroom Essay Contest

"Wisconsin Gardens Provide Many Food Choices For Us"

This year's essay topic offers the opportunity for students to learn where their food comes from, learn about Thomas Jefferson and his gardening research, understand how plants grow, and how to make healthy food choices. The essay contest topic is coordinated with the 2013-2014 Book of the Year- "First Peas to the Table" by Susan Grigsby. This year's essay contest is "Wisconsin Gardens Provide Many Food Choices For Us." Essays must be postmarked by **April 1**. All rules, promotional materials, lessons and activities, and other resources related to the essay contest and book program may be found at www.wisagclassroom.org.





COUNTYnews

MILWAUKEE COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION

A Woman Rooted in Agriculture

Brought to you by Farm Bureau Women's Program for Education and Leadership



Ozaukee County Farm Bureau Women's Chair: Lisa Gantner

Lisa Gantner is very involved in the Ozaukee County Farm Bureau. She is a Farm Bureau Institute graduate, serves as the county's women's chair, Ag in the Classroom chair and helps with the county's dairy promotion breakfast on the farm. She also finds time to be a 4-H dairy leader and a venture crew leader for advance outdoor skills.

Lisa farms alongside her husband, Trevor. Together they run 800 acres of corn, soybeans and alfalfa and milk 85 Holsteins in partnership with Trevor's dad. They raise all the young stock and finish all the steers. Lisa and her husband also cash crop 200 acres of soybeans and corn.

In addition to the dairy farm, Lisa continues to help her parents with their fresh vegetable market business. Utilizing 15 acres, they grow sweet corn, potatoes, squash and a lot of other vegetables. They market their produce locally at five farmers' markets throughout the week in the summer months.

Lisa is the Herdswoman and the young stock raiser. She takes care of all the newborn calves making sure they get off to the best start possible. She feeds the calves every day and takes care of their vaccination program. Lisa also manages all the record keeping for the calves and cows. She has been working on the breeding program for the heifers and cows through the use of artificial insemination. She learned how to breed cattle while attending UW-Madison Farm and

Industry Short Course. Now she breeds all the animals on the farm. The farm was previously bull breed, and she feels this is a way to use her skills to help improve the farm.

You will also see Lisa in a tractor doing spring tillage, driving next to a chopper in a silage truck throughout the summer and hauling a load or two of grain into the coop at harvest time.

Lisa's hobbies include playing softball on summer league, going to tractor pulls and county fairs with her husband, camping, sitting by bonfires and downhill skiing. Lisa usually has a few woodworking projects going on in the winter too.

1.) How did you get involved with Farm Bureau?

"I feel like I have grown up with and in Farm Bureau my entire life. My dad was always a member and my uncle was a past board member and president. So naturally, when there was something that they were doing, I always got to tag along. If it was working to build the food trailers for fair or working at the food stand, I was there. So when I turned 18, it seemed only fitting to join Farm Bureau. It wasn't until then that I realized there was so much more to Farm Bureau than what I knew as a kid. I got involved with the YFA program right away and I have attended numerous YFA Conferences. Then in 2009, I was elected on to the county board as the women's chair."

2.) What excites you about farming?

"When I started on the farm, everything was bull bred. Then I began breeding the heifers and in the summer of 2013, I have started to see my first offspring's, the daughter's freshen and come into the milk herd. I continue to look forward to the next heifer calf that will be born and to improve the genetics on the farm."

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Ag in the Classroom Visits Area Schools

On October 29, Milwaukee County Farm Bureau Ag in the Classroom co-chairs Gina Fritsch and Karyl Rosenberg attended the fall meeting of the Milwaukee Area Physics Sharing group. This group of physical science educators from around southeastern Wisconsin meets about twice a year to share activities and ideas for improving physics and physical science education.

The goal at this meeting was to show how the Soybean Science Kit could be used in physics and physical science classrooms to enhance student understanding of energy issues and alternative fuels. Karyl demonstrated the use of "Putt Putt boats" as a tool to help students better understand energy transfer and the potential of soybean oil based fuels as a way to broaden our range of fuel options for various transportation and mechanical equipment. The presentation was appreciated by the teachers present and many asked about more information related to the Soybean Science Kits.

A "Putt Putt" boat sails around a sink using soy based fuel.



From the Desk of District Director, Dave Daniels...



Hi Y'all. It goes without saying that when in Texas talk as Texans. So that is how the weekend started in San Antonio, the site of this year's American Farm Bureau Annual Meeting. The weather was far better than Wisconsin and we had more than 50 attendees from our state meet on Saturday night at the Wisconsin Delegation dinner to talk about their transportation adventures.

On Sunday the convention started with some of us attending a fundraiser for the AFB Foundation called the Flapjack Fundraiser where everyone made fun of the pancakes. It was

attended by 1,500 or more people and members and guests networked, learned about the latest agricultural literacy efforts and celebrated Foundation award winners, including the coveted Book of the Year winner "The Beeman". That morning I also attended a featured workshop "Morning Show with Orion and Max" where they interviewed a panel of market and weather experts on what 2014 will bring us. The opening session was next where state awards were given out and President Stallman gave his address. Then it was off to the trade show to mingle about and network with old acquaintances. The Young Farmer & Rancher members were also at work with Discussion Meets and interviews. Wisconsin was well represented with Chris Pollack making the final four in the Discussion Meet and Nicole Reese making the Top Ten in the Excellence in Agriculture competition.

On Monday there were more workshops to attend and the general session where Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack spoke to the group and the Keynote Speaker was Alan Rob-

ertson, older brother of the famous Duck Dynasty Robertson Family. What a hoot! There were more workshops to attend and then the closing session that featured retired General Stan McChrystal who gave an inspirational speech on his ordeals in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Tuesday is the day of the delegate session starting early in the morning with financials to start and then continuing with resolutions which we finished up after lunch. It was not one of the more exciting sessions since most of the policies are set in place and were waiting for the farm bill to be passed. Although raw milk policy discussion did have a bit of fireworks involved. With that we were sent on our way home, already looking forward to next year's convention in San Diego, CA. It is usually better weather than Wisconsin in January so make some plans to join us.

Dave Daniels
WFBF District 1 Board Director

Got Pop Tabs?

District 1 Women's Committees are having a Pop tab contest! Save your soda, beer or other can tabs and turn them in to a Milwaukee County Farm Bureau board member.

This is a contest between all of the District 1 counties and they will be going to the Ronald McDonald House.



Since 2000, little aluminum tabs on the tops of soda cans have meant more than \$210,000 to the Ronald McDonald House. Revenue from recycling these little bits of aluminum helps provide a home away from home for families whose seriously ill children are undergoing treatment in the Milwaukee area.

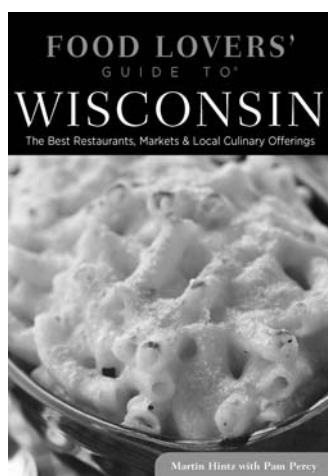
Pop Tab Revenue History for the Ronald McDonald House:

2012 - \$26,200	2011 - \$24,506
2010 - \$26,171	2009 - \$14,845

Let's help make a difference and save your pop tabs!

Kiesow Winner of "Food Lovers Guide to Wisconsin"

In a drawing at the Milwaukee County board's quarterly meeting in February vice president Henry Kiesow won a copy of "Food Lovers Guide to Wisconsin" written by co-board member Martin Hintz and his wife, Pam Percy. The book, recently released by Globe Pequot Press, covers restaurants, speciality food producers and farmers' markets around the state. In their research, Hintz and Percy drew on tips, leads and suggestions from Farm Bureau members, plus tourism and agriculture experts, as well as from their own travels and eating experiences. Copies are available in area bookstores and other retail outlets.



Sign a NEW Member, Get \$20



County Farm Bureau volunteers will receive \$20 for every new voting or associate member they sign between October 1, 2013 and September 30, 2014. Qualifying new members must (a) have no previous Farm Bureau membership, or (b) be more than 25 months past their due date.

Volunteer membership workers picking up past-due membership renewals between July 1 and September 30 will be entered in a drawing for one of five \$100 cash awards. Volunteers signing ten or more renewals during this period will also be entered in the grand prize drawing for a trip for two to the AFBF Annual Meeting in San Diego, CA January 11-14, 2015. For every past-due member signed, the

membership worker must complete and mail in an entry card with the membership payment. A drawing will be held on September 30 (membership year-end).

If a Farm Bureau volunteer signs five or more new Farm Bureau members during the membership year (October 1, 2013 – September 30, 2014), they will qualify as a Producer Club member and will enjoy an exclusive gathering for members and their spouse or guest at the December 2014 WFBF Annual Meeting. Producer Club members also receive a commemorative pin and a special gift in recognition of their efforts.

For membership applications or further information contact Patti Roden at proden@wfbf.com or 262.689.1838.

Wisconsin's Ethan Giebel Wins National Collegiate Discussion Meet



Ethan Giebel, a student at UW-Platteville, was selected the winner of the 2014 national Collegiate Discussion Meet Contest held in conjunction with the American Farm Bureau Young Farmer

build basic discussion skills, develop a keen understanding of important agricultural issues and explore how groups can pool knowledge to reach consensus and solve problems. The Collegiate Discussion Meet is designed to simulate a committee meeting where discussion and active participation are expected from each committee member.

Ethan is a junior at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville where he is pursuing a degree in agricultural education. He enjoys working on his parent's 350-acre farm, EDEM Acres, where they raise about 400 Holstein dairy steers along with corn and alfalfa.

& Rancher Leadership Conference in Virginia Beach on February 8. As the national winner, Giebel received \$2,500 scholarship from competitive event sponsor CHS Foundation.

Giebel was selected as the state winner of the Collegiate Farm Bureau Discussion Meet contest last December at the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation Annual Meeting. The Juneau County native and former president of the Wisconsin FFA Association competed against 52 other collegiate Farm Bureau members from 36 states at the AFBF Collegiate Discussion Meet.

Giebel also works as a freelance writer for the Wisconsin Agriculturist magazine and presents leadership conferences to students in FFA throughout the United States as a facilitator for the National FFA Organization. On campus, Giebel is a member of the UW-Platteville Collegiate Farm Bureau, Collegiate FFA and Alpha Zeta. He is also a member of the Juneau County Farm Bureau and a lifetime Mauston FFA Alumni member.

The Collegiate Discussion Meet is an activity designed to help members analyze agricultural issues and decide on solutions that best meet their needs. By participating, members

In addition to Giebel, three runners-up participated in three rounds of discussion before making it to the Final Four round. Runners-up were Clarissa Brown of Missouri (University of Missouri), Keili Summey of Arizona (Oklahoma State University) and Katie Winslow of Minnesota (University of Minnesota-Twin Cities).

There are Benefits to Your Farm Bureau Membership:

Auto	Health	Supplies and Products
• General Motors Discount	• ScriptSave® Prescription Drug Savings Card	• Case IH
Communication	• Stroke Detection Plus	• FS-GROWMARK Patronage
• AgriVisor (NEW)	Insurance	• Grainger
• The Country Today	• Rural Mutual Insurance Company	• Office Depot
Financial	• Farm Bureau Financial Services	Travel
• AgriPlan Medical Reimbursement Program	Protection	• AAA
• Farm Bureau Bank	• \$500 Reward Protection Program	• AVIS Car Rental Discount Program
	• Accidental Death Policy	• Choice Hotels International, Inc.
		• Wyndham Hotel Group

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

WFBF Annual Meeting Summary

The 94th Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation Annual Meeting and Young Farmer and Agriculturist Conference was held at the Kalahari Resort, December 6-9.

On Saturday at noon, members who signed up at least five new Farm Bureau members enjoyed a delicious steak dinner at the Producer Club luncheon. The Producer Club luncheon congratulates members for signing up five or more new Farm Bureau members.

Sunday morning, Bob Stallman, President of the American Farm Bureau Federation was the guest speaker. Stallman is a cattle and rice grower from Columbus, Texas. He discussed the farm bill they had been working on for two years. Thankfully, the House passed it in January and the Senate in February. One big issue coming down from the EPA is the clean water rules and regulations. One example would be needing to get a permit to spray a field with any type of drainage because of possible run off.

Sunday night, the banquet was held along with the awards program. In the general session on Monday we heard from Steve Freese, Chief Administrator Officer who succeeded Roger Cliff after 40 years of service to WFBF. Farm Bureau held a 40 by 40 fundraiser on his behalf and they raised more than \$50,000 which will be put towards collegiate Farm Bureau programs. One of Steve's goals is to put together a centennial celebration for the organizations 100 years of service in 2019.

Peter Pelizza, Chief Executive Officer with Rural Mutual Insurance, gave a brief presentation and some commentary. Rural Insurance has 79 years of service in. This was the fifth year as one of the top 50 companies with Ward's 50. This year was the sixth year of membership growth and an all-time high insurance policy retention.

This year, Farm Bureau had a very well attended meeting with more than 1,100 people. The state put on a very good meeting with informative workshops along with entertainment on Saturday evening.

Young Farmer and Agriculturist Conference

The Wisconsin Young Farmer and Agriculturist Conference began at the Kalahari Resort on Friday, December 6 and was a fun-filled weekend for more 500 young agriculturists. A first-timers' meeting kicked off the festivities, followed by a Welcome Dinner and then each District had their own YFA meeting. The District 1 meeting was led by outgoing YFA District 1 Representatives Allen and Nancy Dornacker. This was their last term as YFA Representatives and they will be replaced by Peter Muth of Washington County. District 1 conference attendees introduced themselves at the meeting. Upcoming YFA events were also discussed, including the YFA Spring Fling on March 29 and a Milwaukee Brewers Game on April 26.



District 1 YFA members during the district meeting on Friday evening.

The evening entertainment on Friday was the rock group Bumblefist. The Eau Claire based group performed a variety of classic and modern radio hits. After a buffet breakfast on Saturday morning, the group was addressed by keynote speaker Jude Capper. She is a livestock sustainability consultant and travels around the country and gives presentations about common misconceptions and arguments that are becoming common in society about livestock production. Capper had many great ideas and facts for young agriculturists to think about and use when educating the public about livestock farms.

The annual conference held an agricultural trade show as well as a silent auction to benefit the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation. After a delicious pork dinner on Saturday night, the YFA attendees, as well as the WFBF Annual Meeting attendees were treated to entertainment provided by James Wedgwood, a well-known ventriloquist. Sunday morning brought a buffet breakfast followed by an update from American Farm Bureau Federation President Bob Stallman. He gave a report on the progress AFBF is making with our legislators in Washington. Although progress is slow, the AFBF is dedicated to educating lawmakers about agricultural issues.

The annual YFA Conference was an enjoyable experience and allowed YFA representatives state-wide to network and share their passion for agriculture.

Milwaukee County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Scott Ninnemann	414.421.4604
Vice President, Henry Kiesow	414.732.7242
Secretary/Treasurer, John Napientek	414.529.0980
Director, Martin Hintz	414.352.1868
Director, Elroy Honadel	414.529.0196

Milwaukee County Farm Bureau	877.483.0728
District 1 Coordinator, Patti Roden	866.355.7341
WFBF Board Director, Dave Daniels	262.878.5035
RMIC District Manager, Bill Kriese	920.893.1811

If you are interested in attending any of events happening throughout the state, district or county please contact Patti Roden at proden@wfbf.com for further information.

Meet New District 1 YFA Committee Representative Peter Muth



Three young agricultural leaders have been appointed to the Wisconsin Farm Bureau's Young Farmer and Agriculturist Committee.

Katie Mattison of Dunn County, Peter Muth of Washington County, and Derek

Orth of Grant County have been appointed to new leadership roles by the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation's Board of Directors. Their terms began at WFBF's Annual Meeting, December 7-9, in Wisconsin Dells.

Peter Muth is a sixth generation dairy farmer. He and his parents have a 500-acre, 180-cow dairy farm near Fredonia. Peter is graduate of the UW-Madison's Farm and Industry Short Course. He is involved in the Farm Bureau Young Farmer and Agriculturist Program, Fillmore Fire Department and Washington County Holstein Breeders.

The Young Farmer and Agriculturist Committee consists of nine couples or individuals (ages 18-35) from across the state. Their goal is to get more young farmers and agriculturists acquainted with and involved in Farm Bureau. They carry out a variety of statewide initiatives, such as conferences, contests and award programs.

"Farm Bureau thrives because it is made up of the best and brightest young leaders in Wisconsin agriculture. These three individuals are great additions to the YFA Committee," said Jim Holte, Wisconsin Farm Bureau President.

Photos Wanted!

Wisconsin Farm Bureau members live and work on some of the most beautiful pieces of land. In Rural Route WFBF would like to highlight those sights and special moments with your families and friends.



Please email your photos (high resolution jpgs, 4x6 inches at 300 dpi) to ssutton@wfbf.com.