

Juneau County Farm Bureau

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David Meihak - District Manager

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

Juneau County Farm Bureau Holds Annual Meeting

The Juneau County Farm Bureau annual meeting was held September 18 at the Elroy Legion Hall in Elroy. More than 70 members attended the event. The county Ag in the Classroom essay contest winners read their essays. Richard Sheahan, Richard Santas and George Weber were elected to serve as delegates to the WFBF Annual Meeting in December. Sally Turpin was also elected to serve as the county YFA chair. The county also approved resolutions that will be forwarded to the WFBF Policy Development Committee.



County Ag in the Classroom essay winners read their winning essays at the county annual meeting.



More than 70 members attended the county annual meeting held September 18 at the Elroy Legion Hall.

2014-2015 Juneau County Farm Bureau Board of Directors



2014-2015 Juneau County Farm Bureau board of directors: (L to R) Sally Turpin, Dick Santas, George Weber, Richard Sheahan, Tonra Degner, Rodney Knuth, Pat Stanek, Carl Degner and Bill Robinson.

Juneau County Farm Bureau Reaches Membership Goals

Congratulations to Juneau County Farm Bureau for making a voting and total gain in membership by the September 30 membership year end. The county ended the membership year with 256 voting members and 544 total members!

Also, congratulations go to **Richard Santas**, **Richard Sheahan** and **George Weber** for each signing at least five new voting members. All three will be recognized at the WFBF Annual Meeting as Producer Club membership workers.



COUNTYnews

JUNEAU COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION

Meet New Juneau County YFA Chair Sally Turpin



Brief background description of yourself (*education, career, interests, hobbies, etc.*)

Growing up on my family's dairy farm near Hillsboro led me to major in animal science and agronomy at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. I worked as an agronomist for several years before taking on my current role as a feed consultant for Star Blends. I reside near Elroy. I enjoy hunting, fishing, camping, hiking, boating and most

other outdoor activities, as well as running, volleyball and traveling. Most importantly, I like spending time with family and friends.

Why did you first join Farm Bureau?

Not knowing where I'd end up after college, I saw it as an opportunity to meet people. With such a disconnect between many lawmakers and agriculture, I also wanted to support a group that was standing up for those issues and would help keep me informed.

What is the best thing about being a Farm Bureau member?

I've enjoyed meeting new people as well as travel opportunities.

What are some of your goals for the county YFA program?

I would like to engage younger farmer members by having social and educational activities, as well as gain prospective members. I would also like our county to collaborate more with neighboring counties for events.

What was the best thing about participating in the WFBF Leadership Institute program?

I really enjoyed the D.C. trip and getting to see the political process, as well as getting to know members of all ages from across Wisconsin. This was an excellent personal growth opportunity that I highly recommend to anybody.

Anything else you'd like us to know about you?

I am open to feedback or suggestions for what YFA members would like to see from their county program! Please feel free to call me at 608.462.3387 or email sally.turpin@gmail.com.

County President's Report



Harvest greetings!

Another successful year for the Juneau County Farm Bureau is drawing to a close as is the growing season.

I would like to personally thank Travis Degner for serving as the county's YFA chair for several years. I would also like to welcome new YFA chair Sally Turpin to the board.

The activities for the year included Ag in the Classroom activities in our area schools, sending students to the FFA Farm Forum in Wisconsin Rapids, presenting college scholarships, pie sales at the Juneau County Fair booth and our annual food pantry donation.

Many of our board members spend many hours working to achieve our membership goals, which in return accomplish two objectives. One is to provide funds to county programs. The other positive aspect is that it helps Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation in their legislative efforts at the state capitol. State membership is more than 45,000 strong and this adds weight for WFBF's representatives as they lobby for issues that are important for agriculture.

The board of directors would like to thank you for being a member of the Juneau County Farm Bureau!

Yours truly,

Richard Sheahan, Juneau County Farm Bureau President

New Members

Lindsey Beltz	Garrett Madland
Nathan Brown	Jacob Maresch
Brian Burdick	Chad Noltze
Scott Burdick	Emily Purvis
Brian Evans	Sandy Rogers
Richard Fruit	Susie Sagert
David Gabardy	Dwayne Saunders
Kyle Gerike	Alexandria Schnidler
Austin Granger	James Walsh
Jared Laravia	Town of Summit

Welcome
to **Farm
Bureau**

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District Director Report



WFBF has had another eventful year. We successfully lobbied to raise IOH (Implement of Husbandry) axle weights on roads from 20,000 to 23,000 pounds. This new law may seem complicated but the outcome is the same. We are able to continue to use combines, choppers and larger equipment that were more than the 20,000 pounds per axle limit.

The WFB foundation has also had a very active year. We continue to touch more people with the Institute leadership program and YFA programs. This not only helps Farm Bureau

but also local communities and other organizations that these people may serve on. I truly wish success for everyone going through these programs.

Ag in the Classroom also has a new leader as Darlene Arneson went on to run the Norwegian Heritage Center in Stoughton. Wendy Kannel took over and ran a very successful Wisconsin Ag Open golf outing. Wendy is a very dedicated and ambitious person and is very capable of taking Ag in the Classroom to the next success level.

The WFB Foundation is a vital part of our organization. It allows us to fund many of our programs, but the Foundation has been slowly depleted year after year. With that in mind, the WFBF Board has voted to add a \$5 foundation donation to the membership billing statement. This will stop the bleed-

ing of the Foundation. The WFBF Board is dedicated to not only stop the depletion of the Foundation but to grow the fund. We are looking at many things such as efficiencies in operations, eliminating outdated items, foundation events and sponsorships.

Lastly, I want to thank everyone who dedicates their time for this organization. Farm Bureau would not be what it is without 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 all of you to create another successful year in 2015.

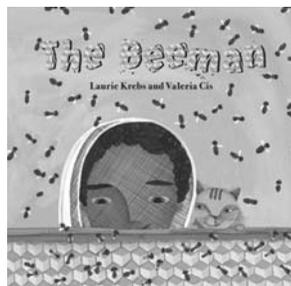
Kevin Krentz
WFBF District 5 Board Director

Juneau County to Participate in 2015 Ag in the Classroom Essay Contest

This year's essay contest topic is "Why are bees important to Wisconsin agriculture?" Our 2015 Book of the Year is "The Beeman" by Laurie Krebs. The book and essay topic will allow us to educate students about bees, beekeeping and the pollination process. All rules, promotional materials, county Farm Bureau contacts, lessons, activities and other resources related to the essay contest and book program can be found at www.wisagclassroom.org.

Contest Rules:

- The essay contest is open to fourth and fifth grade students in public, private and home school programs. Students involved in 4-H, PALS and after school programs are also encouraged to participate.
- Essays must be handwritten in ink or be computer generated. They must be single-sided and fit on one sheet of paper.
- The essay must be between 100 to 300 words in length (using common MS Word "word count" methods for counting words, numbers and abbreviations).
- Essays will be judged on content (25 points), grammar and spelling (15 points) and neatness (10 points).
- Essays must include: student's name, grade level, parent's name, teacher's name, school name and address, school phone number, teacher's email address and county on the back of the essay. Please do not identify the student on the front side.
- Entry deadline - **Postmarked by April 1, 2015** and sent to:
Tonra L. Degner, S136 Thew Road, Wonewoc, WI 53968-9214
For more information, contact Tonra at 608.464.3312 or ctdegner@hotmail.com.



DID YOU KNOW?

- There are three types of bees in the hive: queen, worker and drone.
- The queen may lay 600-800 or even 1,500 eggs each day during her three or four year lifespan. This daily egg production may equal her own weight. She is constantly fed and groomed by attendant worker bees.
- Honey bees fly at 15 miles per hour.
- Honey bees' wings stroke 11,400 times per minute, thus making their distinctive buzz.
- Honeybees are the only insect that produces food for humans.
- Honeybees will usually travel about three miles from their hive.
- Honeybees are the only bees that die after they sting.
- Honeybees are responsible for pollinating about 80% of all fruit, vegetable and seed crops in the U.S.
- Honeybees have five eyes, three small ones on top of the head and two big ones in front. They also have hair on their eyes.
- Bees communicate with each other by dancing and by using pheromones (scents).
- Honeybees never sleep.
- One mouthful in three of the foods you eat directly or indirectly depends on pollination by honey bees. The value of honey bee pollination to U.S. agriculture is more than \$14 billion annually.
- Crops from nuts to vegetables and as diverse as alfalfa, apple, cantaloupe, cranberry, pumpkin, and sunflower all require pollinating by honey bees.

Fun'd the Foundation TRIVIA Contest

Q1: This State Senator won the WFBF Discussion Meet contest in 1985. Q2: What is Wisconsin's State Beverage? Q3: Name the U.S. city whose every other letter is "u."

Gather up to six of your closest (or smartest) friends for a Farm Bureau trivia contest on Sunday, December 7 at 7:30 p.m. during the WFBF Annual Meeting at the Kalahari Resort in Wisconsin Dells. Categories will include current events, history, geography, music, movies, sports, Farm Bureau and more!

- Teams of up to six people
- \$10 per person/\$60 per team
- Three (15 minute) rounds of 25 questions
- Register at wfbf.com/programsevents/event-registration
- Teams can register up until 5 p.m. at the Annual Meeting registration desk.

A1: Senator Sheila Hansford
A2: Milk
A3: Dubuque

Save the Date – Ag Day at the Capitol

The 2015 Ag Day at the Capitol will be held on **Wednesday, March 11** at the Monona Terrace in Madison.

Tentative schedule:

- 11 a.m. Registration
- 11:30 a.m. Opening Program
- 11:45 a.m. Lunch
- 12:45 p.m. Legislative Briefing
- 3 p.m. Capitol Visits



Individual registration is \$25 in advance and \$30 after March 5. For more information contact Becky Hibicki at bhibicki@wfbf.com.

There are Benefits to Your Farm Bureau Membership:

- Auto**
- General Motors Discount
- Health**
- ScriptSave® Prescription Drug Savings Card
 - Stroke Detection Plus
- Supplies and Products**
- Case IH
 - FS-GROWMARK Patronage
 - Grainger
 - Polaris (NEW)
 - 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 Coordinator Report



By the time you read this I will have completed attending all seven of my county annual meetings. The county annual meeting season is my favorite time during the Farm Bureau year. It's a great time for the county Farm Bureau to reflect back on last year's accomplishments and begin to set new goals for the upcoming year.

It is a truly rewarding experience to work with each of the seven county Farm Bureau board of directors in the district. District 5 is one of nine Farm Bureau districts in the state. Our district includes the counties of: Adams, Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Juneau, Marquette, Waushara and Winnebago. Each county is unique and the diversity and strengths of all the counties is what continues to make District 5 successful!

This year District 5 celebrated many successes, including:

- More than **40** board members from the district attended the first-ever leaders meeting held in February.
- **Thirty** members attended one of two district policy development meetings held this fall.
- **Forty** plus members attended the annual Ag Day at the Capitol event.
- **Four** out of the seven counties reached their new voting goal by the April 30 early bird incentive deadline.
- **Three** members are part of the 2014 WFBF Leadership Institute program and two members from the district have

applied to be part of the 2015 program.

- **Six** YFA members competed in the WFBF YFA Achievement Award contest and Fond du Lac County YFA member Chris Pollack made it into the final four nationally.
- **Five** YFA members competed in the WFBF YFA Excellence in Agriculture contest and Marquette YFA member Amanda Zuehls made it into the final four.
- **Six** YFA members competed in the district YFA Discussion Meet contest and more than 30 members attended the district Discussion Meet held in August.
- **Six** members have signed at least five new voting members and will be recognized as Producer Cub membership workers.

Adams County member Michelle Bula is completing her first year representing the district on the WFBF Women's Committee. I would also like to thank Tim Clark for serving the last three years as the district YFA representative. Tim will complete his term on the committee this year. Marquette YFA member Amanda Knoch was appointed to replace Tim on the YFA Committee.

If you have any questions throughout the year, please feel free to contact me at any time.

Sincerely,

Becky Hibicki, District 5 Coordinator
(bhibicki@wfbf.com or 920.517.2445)

Save the Date: 5th Annual Wisconsin Ag Women's Summit

By **Brianna Ditzenberger**, District 2 Representative for the Women's Program for Education and Leadership

With the chilly days of fall in swing, we know winter is on the way. To keep our thoughts warm over the next six months, let's look forward to the 5th anniversary of the Wisconsin Ag Women's Summit!

If you haven't attended the Summit or are considering it, here are the top five reasons you should mark your calendar for **March 13-14** in Madison:

1. **Networking opportunities.** Meet other women passionate about agriculture during this two-day event.
2. **Be inspired.** Through networking and social aspects of the Summit, you are guaranteed to leave with ideas and inspiration.
3. **Education.** With new breakout sessions, there is something for everyone.

4. Rooted in Agriculture.

This year's keynote is well-known in Wisconsin agriculture; get ready for a relatable and inspiring welcome!

5. Fun!

How often is it that women from all areas of the state come together to energize our spirits and celebrate our connection to the agriculture community? Once a year – at the Wisconsin Ag Women's Summit.

This event is a shared vision between the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation, Badgerland Financial and UW-Extension. See you in March!



Juneau County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Richard Sheahan	608.415.0810
Vice President, Rodney Knuth	608.462.5425
Secretary/Treasurer, Richard Santas	608.489.3509
Women's Chair/Ag in the Classroom Coordinator, Tonra Degner	608.464.3312
YFA Chair, Sally Turpin	608.547.7865
Director, Carl Degner	608.464.3312
Director, Bill Robinson	608.847.4144
Director, Patrick Stanek	608.462.5083
Director, George Weber	608.462.5907
Juneau County Farm Bureau	866.666.8012
WFBF Board Director, Kevin Krentz	920.570.0158
District 5 Coordinator, Becky Hibicki	866.355.2029
RMIC District Manager, Dave Meihak	715.344.6220

District 5 Holds YFA Discussion Meet

The District 5 YFA Discussion Meet was held August 21 at the City Inn Bar and Grill in Berlin. More than 30 people attended the event with six YFA members competing. Ethan Giebel (Juneau County), Sally Turpin (Juneau County) and Nate Zimdars (Fond du Lac County) placed in the top three and will represent District 5 at the WFBF Discussion Meet in December.

Congratulations Sally and Ethan and best of luck!



2014 Juneau County Resolutions

1. The owner of UAS (Unmanned Aircraft Systems) for information gathering needs to gain consent of the landowner and land operator.
2. Licensing and insurance should be required for drones.
3. The use of drones to cause malicious damage to a person or entity would be punishable by law.
4. The University of Wisconsin-Extension system should consider lifting the requirements of needing a master's degree to work as a county agent.