



## Kenosha County Farm Bureau

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|   |
|---|
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| <b>Michael Leonardelli - (262) 654-0427</b> |

Linda Schopen, District Manager - (262) 522-8620

**Rural Mutual Insurance Company**  
[www.ruralins.com/farm-dividend](http://www.ruralins.com/farm-dividend)

### Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

## Kenosha County Farm Bureau Scholarships Are Due

Kenosha County Farm Bureau Scholarship applications are now available. Two scholarships will be available to worthy applicants who enroll in any field of study. You could be eligible for a \$200 scholarship for a technical college, \$300 for farm and short course or \$500 for a four-year university or college scholarship. The deadline for the applications is **May 12**.

Scholarships are available at high school guidance offices or visit the Kenosha County Farm Bureau website at [wfbf.com/countyfarm-bureaus/kenosha](http://wfbf.com/countyfarm-bureaus/kenosha). You or your family must be a Farm Bureau member in order to be eligible.



## AG DAY AT THE CAPITOL

Wednesday, March 8 • Monona Terrace Convention Center,  
1 John Nolen Drive, Madison

Mark your calendars for **Wednesday, March 8**, and plan to attend Ag Day at the Capitol. It's important for all of us to raise our voice on issues. Take a few minutes to be familiar with an issue that is affecting you and call your legislators. Inform them how important agriculture is in Kenosha County and share your views on issues and how they affect your farm.

Remember when you talk to your legislators to be respectful and thank them for their support of agriculture.

### Schedule of Events:

- 11:00 a.m. Registration
  - 11:30 a.m. Opening Program
  - 11:45 a.m. Lunch
  - 12:45 p.m. Legislative Briefing
  - 3:00 p.m. Capitol Visits: Kenosha County and Racine County are meeting in Room 400 NE
- Register by Wednesday, March 1, to Patti Roden at [proden@wfbf.com](mailto:proden@wfbf.com) or 262.689.1838. The cost is \$25 per person prior to March 1, \$30 after the deadline.**

## District 1 YFA Spring Fling Planned

**Date:** Saturday, March 18  
**Time:** Doors open at 7:30 p.m., band plays from 8 to midnight  
**Band:** FM Rodeo

**Location:** The Columbian, West Bend  
**Tickets:** \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door

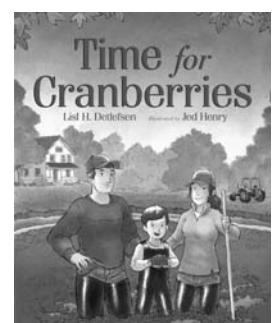
For tickets, please contact Kenosha County YFA chair Dan Kirchner.



## Essay Contest Focuses on Cranberries

Each year Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom offers an essay contest for fourth and fifth grade students in all public, private and home schools, including 4-H clubs, Farm Bureau families and other organizations. The 2016-2017 topic is 'Tell us about cranberry production in Wisconsin during one of the four seasons.'

The essay contest theme coincides with this year's book of the year *Time for Cranberries* by Lisl H. Detlefsen. This book follows a boy and his family through the process of collecting cranberries all the way to eating the delicious treat. County contest entries are due by **April 1**.



For more information, please contact Scott Thompson at 262.237.4777 or visit [www.wisagclassroom.org](http://www.wisagclassroom.org).

**The cranberry became Wisconsin's official fruit in 2004. The result of a class project of a fifth grade student from Trevor Grade School in Kenosha County.**





# COUNTYnews

KENOSHA COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION



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### WFBF Annual Meeting



The Kenosha County Farm Bureau donated the American Girl Doll to the Silent Auction at the WFBF Annual Meeting. The doll raised \$120.00 for the WFB Foundation.

The awards banquet was held on Sunday evening. The banquet showcased the WFBF Institute members who graduated and presented two top awards. Sam Skemp was the winner of the Distinguished Service to Wisconsin Agriculture Award. The winner of the Distinguished Service to Farm Bureau Award was Dave Kruschke from St. Croix County.



Kenosha County Farm Bureau members who attended the WFBF Annual Meeting included: (L-R) Wilfred and Connie Meier, Kim and Kevin Muhlenbeck and Kim and Dave Daniels.

The 97<sup>th</sup> WFBF Annual Meeting was December 3-5 at the Kalahari Resort in Wisconsin Dells. The WFBF Annual Meeting overlaps with the YFA Conference, giving us a chance to network with younger leaders throughout the state.

Members from the Kenosha County Farm Bureau who attended the WFBF Annual Meeting included Dave and Kim Daniels, Wilfred and Connie Meier and Kevin and Kim Muhlenbeck.

After a Green Bay Packer win, the Sunday afternoon breakout sessions included estate and business succession planning, grain marketing alternatives, how farmers lead water quality discussions and ideas that work for membership campaigns.

On Monday morning, the business session was held. Some highlights were:

- WFBF Chief Administrative Officer Dale Beaty is working on the 100<sup>th</sup> WFBF Annual Meeting. He also discussed statements of belief, freedom, representative government and Farm Bureau.
- Rural Mutual Insurance CEO Peter Pelizza talked about membership growth for the ninth consecutive year; number of claims up due to inattentive driving and as of January 1, Rural Mutual Insurance will pay dividends to the farm policy holders. It is projected that \$2.5 million will be paid throughout the state; there are 160 insurance agents in the state.

At the resolution session, Taylor County presented a by-law change to remove the Promotion and Education Committee Chair from the WFBF Board of Directors. After lengthy discussion, it was voted to keep the position on the board due to responsibilities and representation.

Overall, the WFBF Annual Meeting was very good. The WFBF staff does an excellent job putting this event together. There were 461 young farmer and agriculturist members who attended the YFA Conference and 650 attendees at the WFBF Annual Meeting.

All attendees had a great time visiting, reconnecting and networking with friends.

Mark your calendars for the 2017 WFBF Annual Meeting on December 2-4.



YFA members Dan Kirchner, Chaesta Shager and Tim Edquist network with Wilfred Meier at the WFBF Annual Meeting.



Kenosha County Farm Bureau delegates included: (L-R) Wilfred Meier, Kim Muhlenbeck and Kevin Muhlenbeck.

## From the Desk of District 1 Director



Now that the days are getting longer, let's take a look at things that are planned for the district this year. In December, the county chairs came up with events that you need to watch for in this and upcoming newsletters. From the YFA's Spring Fling to the Promotion and Education summer activities. Check them out, get involved and have some fun.

In January, a Wisconsin delegation ventured to the 'Valley of the Sun,' in Phoenix, Arizona, and attended the AFBF Annual Convention. Board members, staff and other Farm Bureau members listened to AFBF President Zippy Duvall and other speakers. His speech was on the new Congress getting things

done in Washington, D.C. With a majority in both houses, and a new President, they hope that the country can move forward on some pressing agriculture issues.

Regulatory reform was one of the main topics so that farmers can farm rather than looking over their shoulders. AFBF delegates approved a special resolution urging Congress to enact swift, meaningful and strongly bipartisan regulatory reform. The resolution comes in the wake of the introduction of bills in Congress that would pare back the rapid growth of oppressive regulation and government overreach.

President Duvall also talked about tax code changes that will keep more money in taxpayers' pockets, trade opportunities and the changes that farmers want to see in the farm bill for 2018.

Speaking of the upcoming farm bill, WFBF is putting together a task force from members in all nine districts and some at-large members from other farming segments. The board wants a well-rounded group to look how the farm bill for 2018 will affect farmers in Wisconsin. Also, we are bringing the state Dairy Committee together to look at the current Margin Protection Program and how it can provide a better functioning safety net for dairy farmers.

As the days get longer, we have plenty of work to do. But rest assured, your organization is striving to make agriculture a better business to be involved in.

Have a great day,

**Dave Daniels,**  
District 1 Director

## Farm Bureau Social: FREE Bowling, Food



### Plan to attend the Kenosha County and Racine County Farm Bureaus Bowling Social!

Come and meet the members of the board of directors and enjoy fun evening of bowling. Bring a friend and win door prizes.

**Date:** Friday, March 17

**Location:** River City Lanes, 730 Cornerstone Crossing, Waterford

**Time:** 7 p.m.

**Food:** Pizza and wings

**For information or if you have questions, please contact Dan Kirchner.**

## Hamburger Helper

**Patti Roden,** District 1 Coordinator



*I was recently at a meeting where I heard this story...*

Four girls lived together in a house in college. One of the four were studying to be an agriculture teacher, the others were not studying agriculture.

One night they decide to make hamburger helper for dinner, so they sent one of the roommates to the grocery store to buy hamburger. The roommate was gone for over an hour and came back without any hamburger. Puzzled, the woman studying to be an agriculture teacher went to the same grocery store that the roommate went to, and purchased hamburger. When the agriculture teacher came back with the hamburger, she questioned the other roommate on why she couldn't find the hamburger. Her reason, none of the labels said 'hamburger.'

This story made me chuckle, but the reality is, consumers are so far removed from agriculture, that they may not know the difference between ground chuck and ground round in the grocery store. And the roommate was exactly right, none of the labels say hamburger. Growing up on a farm and buying our own meat from the butcher shop, I guess I have taken it for granted that I am familiar on how to prepare beef and what the different types of ground beef are.

There are many types of ground beef based on where the meat comes from and the fat content. The most common types of ground beef that's available include:

- **Regular ground beef.** This beef usually contains the highest fat content (about 25-30 percent) since it's cut from the trimmings of inexpensive cuts like brisket and shank. Regular ground beef is the least expensive form of ground beef, it has the most flavor, and it will shrink the most when cooked because of the high fat content.
- **Ground chuck.** This beef contains about 15-20 percent fat and comes from the front of the animal (by the shoulder). The ground chuck isn't as fatty and has good flavor. When reading a label, it may also be labeled lean ground beef.
- **Ground round.** This beef has about 12 percent fat and is from the lower end of the cow near the tail area. The ground round has a less-beefy flavor, this beef is often mixed with other ingredients. It can also be labeled extra-lean ground beef on the store shelves.
- **Ground sirloin.** This is the leanest and most expensive form of ground beef. It contains 10-14 percent fat and comes from the midsection of the animal. Ground sirloin is the healthiest beef, yet is the driest when cooked. When shopping, it can also be labeled extra-lean ground beef.

Next time you are at the grocery store, take note of the different types of ground beef and notice the fat content that is listed on the label. Or better yet, stop by your local butcher and buy some of the freshest meat. Ground beef can be stored in the refrigerator for up to 2 days, or stored in the freezer for up to six months.

*Information from [www.thekitchn.com](http://www.thekitchn.com).*

*Do you have other stories or topics that you'd like to read about in the Kenosha County newsletter? Email District 1 coordinator at [prodren@wfbf.com](mailto:prodren@wfbf.com) to help generate ideas for future newsletters.*



## YFA Conference

By Dan Kirchner, YFA Chair

The 2016 YFA Conference at the Kalahari Resorts in Wisconsin Dells was once again a huge success.



**Tim Edquist and Dan Kirchner represented Kenosha County at the YFA Conference.**

With so many attendees and so little time, it was a fantastic week-end of creating new friends and catching up with old. Along with the camaraderie came a great message from our keynote speakers. The world is full of misinformation, but being an advocate and educating our local communities through social media or in person can help get our voice and our vision of agriculture out to the general public. Furthering our education, we broke out into sessions pertaining to ag finances, ag technologies as well as succession planning.

All in all, the YFA conference once again lived up to being one of the biggest highlights of 2016.

I would like to extend a big congratulations to our District 1 Discussion Meet contestant Kallie Jo Kastenson for making it to the final four in the Discussion Meet.

I encourage all of our Kenosha county YFA members to please sign up for the 2017 YFA Conference and to also remember that sponsorship is available to cover the cost of the trip for first time attendees.



**Kallie Jo Kastenson was one of four finalists in the Discussion Meet: (L-R) Kallie Jo Kastenson, Racine County; Julie Sweeney, Dodge County; Isaac Christenson, Polk County; and Kristi Fiedler, Shawano County. The winner was Kristi Fiedler who competed at the AFBF Annual Convention in January.**

## 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
  - Office Depot

- Communication**
  - AgriVisor
  - The Country Today
- Insurance**
  - Rural Mutual Insurance Company
  - Farm Bureau Financial Services
- Travel**
  - AAA
  - AVIS Car Rental Discount Program
  - Budget (NEW)
  - 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](http://wfbf.com/benefits-membership).

## Building Farm Bureau ... One Member at a Time

County Farm Bureau volunteers will receive \$20 for every new voting or associate member they sign between **October 1, 2016 and September 30, 2017**.

Qualifying new members must (a) have no previous Farm Bureau membership, or (b) be more than 25 months past their due date.

### 2017 Wisconsin Farm Bureau Membership Application



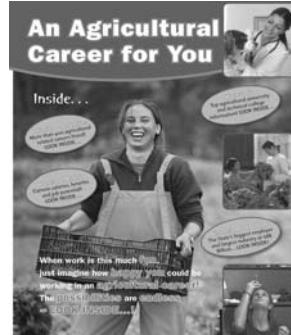
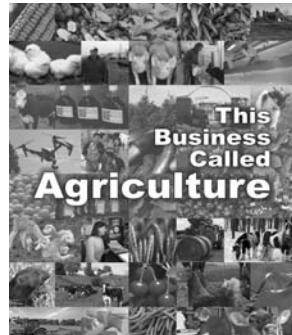
- Volunteer membership workers who sign up two or more new members by **April 1** will receive a pair of Farm Bureau work gloves.
- Volunteer membership workers who sign up five or more new members by **May 1** will receive a Farm Bureau Proud Carhartt vest to be presented at their county Farm Bureau annual meeting.
- Volunteer membership workers who sign up eight or more new members by **August 1** will receive a personalized Farm Bureau farm sign to be presented at the WFBF Annual Meeting.
- Farm Bureau volunteers qualify as members of the Farm Bureau Proud Club by signing five or more new Farm Bureau members during the membership year.
- Members of the 2017 Farm Bureau Proud Club and their spouse or guest will receive exclusive recognition at the 2017 WFBF Annual Meeting.
- Farm Bureau Proud Club members also receive a commemorative pin and a special gift in recognition of their efforts.
- Volunteer membership workers signing up past-due membership renewals or new members between **April 1 and September 30** will be entered in a drawing for one of five, \$100 cash awards.
- Volunteers collecting 10 or more renewals or new members during this period also will be entered in the grand prize drawing for a trip for two (registration and lodging) to the WFBF Annual Meeting in Wisconsin Dells on December 2-4.
- For every new or past-due member signed, the membership worker must complete and mail in an entry card with the membership payment. Drawings will be held on **September 30**.



## FREE Resources Available from Ag in the Classroom

Ag in the Classroom has FREE resources available that you may find beneficial in your classrooms.

- *The ABC's and 123's of Agriculture*: Pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students.
- *This Business Called Agriculture*: Fourth grade students.
- *An Agricultural Career for You*: Middle school and high school students.



You can order any of these resources and more at [wisagclassroom.org](http://wisagclassroom.org).

The Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom program has a lot of free online and printed resources available. We hope you will be able to use them in your classroom.

## Kenosha County Farm Bureau Contacts:

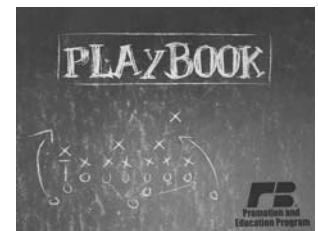
|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| President, Kevin Muhlenbeck                 | 262.859.1824 |
| Vice President, Scott Thompson              | 262.237.4777 |
| Secretary-Treasurer, Daniel Kevek           | 262.308.6058 |
| Promotion and Education Chair, Connie Meier | 262.857.7202 |
| YFA Chair, Dan Kirchner                     | 262.818.2795 |
| Director, Wilfred Meier                     | 262.857.7202 |
| Kenosha County Farm Bureau                  | 877.432.9489 |
| District 1 Coordinator, Patti Roden         | 866.355.7341 |
| WFBF Board Director, Dave Daniels           | 262.878.5035 |
| RMIC District Manager, Linda Schopen        | 262.522.8620 |

For more details on upcoming YFA events 'Like' Kenosha County Farm Bureau and YFA on Facebook, and visit the website [wfbf.com/countyfarmbureaus/kenosha](http://wfbf.com/countyfarmbureaus/kenosha).

## 'Playbook' Resource is Online

Did you know that the Farm Bureau collected events, programs and activities from throughout the state and put them into one resource for counties? Throughout the 'Playbook,' you will find activities and events for different ages, time frames and budgets in the following categories:

- Ag in the Classroom
- Consumer outreach
- Education and ag promotion
- Fundraising
- Member development
- Policy and development implementation



For more information, please contact Deb Raemisch at 608.828.5712 or [draemisch@wfbf.com](mailto:draemisch@wfbf.com).

## Attend the Ag Women's Summit

Join us at the Ag Women's Summit on March 10-11 at the Madison Marriott West.



WISCONSIN  
**Ag Women's**  
SUMMIT

The Wisconsin Ag Women's Summit is a joint effort of Badgerland Financial, the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation and University of Wisconsin-Extension to host an event focused on engaging and supporting women in agriculture.

During the Ag Women's Summit the 2017 AgVocate of the Year award will be announced.

Keynote speaker is Jane Jenkins Herlong who will talk about 'Bare feet to high heels and the flip flops in between' and 'Don't throw tomatoes at my field of dreams.'

The registration fee for the Ag Women's Summit is \$155. One-Day registration is \$115. Final registration deadline is **March 3**.

For more information or to register, visit [wiagwomensummit.com](http://wiagwomensummit.com) or to view the agenda, visit [wiagwomensummit.com/agenda](http://wiagwomensummit.com/agenda).