



Kenosha County Farm Bureau

PO Box 5550 Madison, WI 53705

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Platteville, WI 53818
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Timothy Cox (262) 558-4470
Steve Marcinkowski (262) 654-0427
Nathan Leonardelli (262) 654-0427
Linda Schopen, District Manager - (920) 723-5108

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

Save the Date: Kenosha County Dairy Breakfast



Date: Saturday, June 16
Time: from 6:30 to 10:30 a.m.
Place: Spoerlein Family Farm

Since 1981, the Kenosha County Dairy Promotion Committee has sponsored the annual dairy breakfast on the farm. It has grown over the years to include a big farm breakfast, milking demonstrations, a Wisconsin products tent, children's



games, farm toys for sale, a farm machinery display and much more.

The breakfast will once again include scrambled eggs with ham and cheese, pancakes, fresh bread and butter, yogurt, muffins, milk, juice and ice cream.

Like Kenosha County Dairy Promotion on facebook for more details.

Kenosha County Scholarship Applications Due April 15

The 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/college scholarship.

The deadline for the applications is **May 12**.

Scholarships are available at all high school guidance offices or visit the Kenosha County Farm Bureau web page at wfbf.com/countyfarmbureaus/kenosha.



You or your family must be a Farm Bureau member in order to be eligible to apply.

District 1 Plans 11th Annual YFA Spring Fling

Kick up your boots and plan to attend the 11th annual District 1 Young Farmer and Agriculturist Spring Fling. Enjoy catching up with friends and meeting new friends, while listening to live music.

Date: Saturday, March 24
Time: Doors open at 7:30 p.m., band plays from 8 p.m. to midnight
Band: FM Rodeo
Location: The Columbian, West Bend
Tickets: \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door

To get your advanced tickets, contact District YFA Chair Charlie Oberhaus at 262.337.2448 or Kenosha County YFA Chair Dan Kirchner at 262.818.2795.



The band FM Rodeo will play during the YFA Spring Fling on Saturday, March 24.



COUNTYnews

KENOSHA COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

2 National Ag Day

Membership Dues Increase

Focus on Membership

IGNITE Conference

Lunch and Learn

3 WFBF Annual Meeting

Book of the Year

Ag Today Readers

Board Contacts

Kenosha County Farm Bureau Members Attend Ag Day at the Capitol



Kenosha County Farm Bureau members attended Ag Day at the Capitol. Pictured: (from left) Ben Harbach, Dave Daniels (standing), Wilfred Meier and Connie Meier.

Hundreds of attendees filled the Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center and Capitol on January 24 for the annual Ag Day at the Capitol presented by WFBF.

While at the Monona Terrace attendees heard from Governor Scott Walker. Governor Walker recognizes and understands the importance of agriculture. He spoke about the need for a stable healthcare plan, how broadband will transform agriculture and the family farm fund for students who are studying agriculture. Governor Walker also signed an executive order to support rural economic development. It's important to have young people to take over the farm and the executive order will provide low interest loans and scholarships for agriculture.

Some of the hot topics discussed at the Monona Terrace included:

- **CAFO:** In October, Governor Walker announced that he wants to work with the legislature and the EPA to transfer regulatory authority over CAFO facilities from the DNR to DATCP. DATCP offers technical expertise and could help make the program more efficient and effective, legislators were asked to support this transfer.
- **Wetland:** Legislators were asked to support two bills that exempt nonfederal and artificial wetlands from DNR permitting requirements. It also requires parties building on these lands to mitigate with new wetlands at a ratio of 1.2 acres for every acre lost, but would no longer require an environmental review. This is a significant piece of legislation for those looking to develop land but have faced roadblocks from isolated or artificial wetland designations, and for farmers looking to protect tillable acreage from being classified as state wetlands.



Following the legislative briefings, members from Kenosha County and Racine County Farm Bureaus went to the Capitol to visit with legislators. Members in attendance included: (from left) Dave Daniels, Wilfred Meier, Ben Harbach and Keith Jacobson.

- **Wisconsin Livestock Identification Consortium:** Two bills have been proposed and legislators are asked to support the bills that provide additional funding to the livestock premises registration program. The funding to properly administer this program is not keeping up with the programming costs. These bills will put an additional \$200,000 in general purpose revenue into the program in the 2017-19 biennium.
- **Barns:** In recent years there has been a surge in refurbishing barns that were built prior to 1965 as a means for extra income, using the barns for weddings, social events, meetings, etc. Two bills have been authored and legislators are asked to support the bills that maintain basic, yet essential, safety requirements while providing regulatory simplicity and certainty for those wishing to use the barns.
- **Schools:** Bills have been introduced to increase sparsity aid payments to eligible schools by \$6.5 million in the next school year. The plan would allow school districts with low revenue caps to increase the amount they spend from the current \$9,100 per students limit to \$9,400 per student next school year. It would increase by \$100 each year until it reaches \$9,800. This would impact about 120 low-spending school districts that qualify for sparsity aid (districts under 745 students).

Following Governor Walker's address and the legislative briefings, members walked to the Capitol to talk with the legislators. It's important to meet with the legislators and get them familiar with agriculture and the issues you are facing on your farm. Wisconsin is America's Dairyland and we need to tell our legislators how important agriculture is in Wisconsin.

Kenosha County Farm Bureau Hosts Social: FREE Bowling and Pizza

Kenosha County Farm Bureau Bowling Social

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

Come and meet your Kenosha County Farm Bureau board of directors for a fun evening of bowling, bring a friend and win door prizes.

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Food: Pizza

Date: Friday, March 16

For more information or if you have questions, please contact Dan Kirchner at 262.818.2795.



Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom National Ag Day Events

The Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom is encouraging the agriculture community to start planning to celebrate National Ag Day on **March 20**.

Youth Contest

Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom has a new twist to our annual contest. Rather than only coloring, students will draw a machine they think could be used on a farm in the year 2050 and then color it. For contest rules, visit www.wisagclassroom.org under 'What's New.' Entries must be received by **March 27**.

Ag Day Reading Event

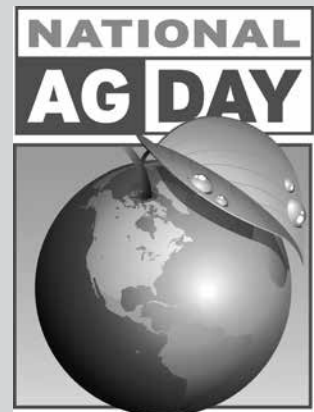
Celebrate Ag Day on **Tuesday, March 20**, by joining farmers, volunteers, teachers, FFA and 4-H members, college students, agri-business employees and others by reading books about agriculture to students, home school families, nursing home residents, day cares and others. The recommended book is the Ag in the Classroom's book of the year, "John Deere, That's Who!" by Tracy Maurer.

#WIAgProud Campaign

Wisconsin Farm Bureau is bringing back the

#WIAgProud campaign for the fourth year to encourage farmers and agriculturists to share what they do and why they do it on social media. You are encouraged to share what makes you proud of Wisconsin agriculture by using #WIAgProud on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. By tagging your social media posts with the hashtag #WIAgProud, the Farm Bureau will be able to find and repost.

For National Ag Day resources, visit www.wisagclassroom.org, www.wfbf.com or www.agday.org.



Membership Dues Increasing October 1



At the September 2017 meeting, the Kenosha County membership voted to increase the county membership dues by \$5. The dues amount will increase to \$55 effective **October 1**.

The additional \$5 will go to the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation, as there are increasing the dues at that time.

When you join Farm Bureau, you not only become a member of Kenosha County Farm Bureau, but also the Wisconsin Farm Bureau and the American Farm Bureau.

Currently your cost to be a Farm Bureau member is \$50. That is broken down as follows:

- **Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation = \$36**
State activities, conducting programs and staffing. Consumer and youth education, issue advocacy, leadership development and member publications are services that are furnished with state dues.
- **Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation Services Program = \$3**
When county secretaries retired, Farm Bureau offered a services program to counties. Kenosha County is a part of this program in which the district coordinator acts as the county secretary. There are three portions to the program that include administrative, financials and the newsletter program.

- **American Farm Bureau Federation = \$4**
A portion of your dues are forwarded to support Farm Bureau activities at the national level. These funds support agriculture's voice in our nation's capital as well as the many programs that AFBF has in place to educate consumers, share the message of agriculture and provide online resources to its members.
- **Accidental Death Policy = \$1**
\$1 of your dues is applied toward an accidental death insurance policy that is a benefit of membership that covers you as a member, your spouse and eligible children. Coverage begins at \$500 and increases in value for the member and spouse with each consecutive year of membership up to \$3,500.
- **Kenosha County Farm Bureau = \$6**
Funds local events and activities. This includes county meetings, scholarships, ag in the classroom and many more to promote Farm Bureau and agriculture in Kenosha County.

The Kenosha County Farm Bureau dues will be \$55 effective **October 1**. Anyone whose membership dues are due on that date will receive an invoice in mid-August reflecting the increase in dues.

Thank you for being a member of the Kenosha County Farm Bureau.

Kenosha County Focuses on Membership

The membership year is **October 1 through September 30**, and each year the county has new goals to achieve to maintain current membership numbers. The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation provides membership volunteers and county Farm Bureau's with incentives to achieve their goals.

County Farm Bureau volunteers will receive \$20 for every new voting or associate member they sign between **October 1, 2017 and September 28, 2018**. Qualifying new members must: (a) have no previous Farm Bureau membership, or (b) be more than 25 months past their due date.

The county Farm Bureau will receive \$1,000 cash award if the county Farm Bureau reaches its new voting goal by the **March 30** month-end cut-off. 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 2018 Farm Bureau Proud Club and his or her spouse or guest will receive exclusive recognition at the December 2018 WFBF Annual Meeting.

Farm Bureau Proud Club members also receive a commemorative pin and a special gift in recognition of their efforts.

Carry Farm Bureau Down the Field

First Down: Volunteer membership workers who signed up at least one new member by January 31 received Farm Bureau microwave popcorn.

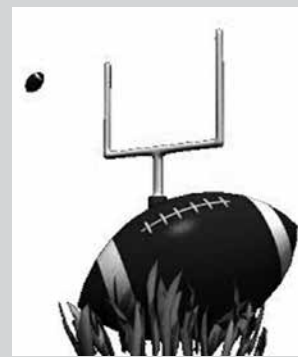
Two-point Conversion: Volunteer membership workers who sign up two or more new members by **February 28** will have the opportunity to autograph the district's commemorative **Farm Bureau Proud** Football that will be prominently displayed at county and statewide meetings and awarded by drawing one of those who signed it at the end of the membership year.



Field Goal: Volunteer membership workers who sign up three or more new members by **March 31** will receive a **Farm Bureau Proud** Knit Cap.

Touchdown: Volunteer membership workers who sign up seven or more new members by **July 31** will receive a **Farm Bureau Proud** Fleece to be presented at the county Farm Bureau annual meeting.

For membership applications or information, please contact District 1 Coordinator Patti Roden at proden@wfbf.com or 262.689.1838.



Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation® presents:

Ignite

Innovate. Grow. Network. Inform. Train. Engage.

2018 Conference

April 5-6

Holiday Inn Conference Center, Stevens Point

What:

A statewide information, training, and fun-filled member engagement meeting for county Farm Bureau leaders conducted by WFBF staff with assistance from AFBF staff and various outside speakers/presenters.

Purpose:

Strengthen county leaders and Farm Bureaus by providing them with program ideas, resources and new skills to carry out the mission of their county Farm Bureau.

20 Plus Workshop Topics Addressing 4 Training Workshop Tracks:

1. Governance and Organization (running a successful county Farm Bureau)
2. Building Farm Bureau (programs and membership)
3. Communicating for Agriculture and Farm Bureau
4. Policy, Issues and Advocacy

Lunch and Learn with Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

Who: Members who want to learn more about Farm Bureau and agriculture.

What: Educational webinars.

When: First Wednesday of every month, noon to 12:30 p.m.

Where: From the comfort of your home or business.

How: RSVP at <http://bit.ly/WFBFLunchLearn>; you will receive a confirmation and directions on how to participate.



Farm Bureau: Rooted in Family

The theme for the 2017 Young Farmer Conference and WFBF Annual Meeting was 'Farm Bureau, Rooted in Family.' As members, Farm Bureau means more than an organization, it means family.

The Young Farmer and Agriculturist (YFA) Conference gives members ages 18-35, the opportunity to network, listen to keynote speakers and attend workshops.

In addition, at the YFA Conference is where the winner is cho-



Kenosha County members who attended the YFA Conference were Dan Kirchner and Tim Edquist.



Kenosha County members who attended the WFBF Annual Meeting included from left: Wilfred and Connie Meier, Kim and Kevin Muhlenbeck, Kim and Dave Daniels.

sen for YFA contests such as the Discussion Meet, Excellence in Ag and Achievement Award. This year Kallie Jo Kastenson competed in the Discussion Meet at the state level and advanced to the Elite 8 round. If you see Kallie Jo, congratulate her on a job well done.

The WFBF Annual Meeting gives members of all ages the opportunity to reconnect and network with friends, while attending awards banquets, workshops and the delegate session.



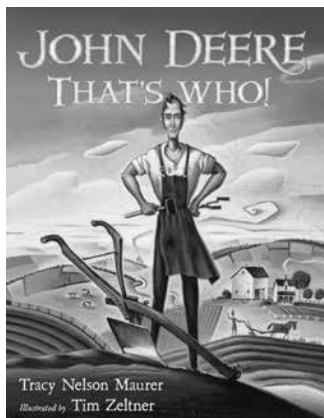
A familiar face to many in Kenosha County, Kallie Jo Kastenson competed in three rounds of the Discussion Meet and represented District 1 very well.



The Kenosha County delegates were voted on at the county annual meeting and they represented Kenosha County at the delegate session. The delegates included: (from left) Wilfred Meier, Kevin Muhlenbeck and Tim Edquist.

Ag in the Classroom Book of the Year "John Deere, That's Who!"

This year's Ag in the Classroom book of the year, "John Deere, That's Who!" written by Tracy Nelson Maurer and illustrated by Tim Zeltner, provides students with inspiration for this year's Ag in the Classroom essay contest.



Read the book to find the answers to these questions (answers can be found in the last paragraph).

America's breadbasket means:

- The different types of bread made in the Midwest.
- The types of containers a baker uses.
- The wheat that is grown to make bread.
- The area known as the 'prairie fields of grain.'

Forge means:

- A mountain.
- The workplace of a blacksmith.
- Fireplace.
- Where a blacksmith heats the metal.

Using the book of the year, "John Deere, That's Who!" this year's essay topic is 'Inventions that have made agriculture great.' Students will write about inventions that have made agriculture advance in technology, efficiency and productivity.

The essay contest is open to fourth and fifth grade students in public schools, private schools and home school programs. Students involved in 4-H, PALS and after school programs also

are encouraged to participate. The essay must be between 100- and 300-words in length.

The essays must be postmarked by **April 1**, and sent to: Kenosha County Farm Bureau essay contest coordinator Scott Thompson.

Scott Thompson
14000 75th Street
Bristol, WI 53104

The essays will be judged by the Kenosha County promotion and education committee. The first-place county winner will compete in the district contest; the winner at the district level will compete at the state level and awarded with a classroom presentation.

For more information, visit the Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom website at information.wisagclassroom.org.

In the book "John Deere, That's Who!" the Deere family decided to move to Moline, Illinois, so the company was closer to the Mississippi River for better waterpower and easier deliveries. The 'prairie fields of grain' became known as America's breadbasket. John was a young blacksmith originally from Vermont where his forge burned to the ground and he rebuilt it before moving to Illinois. A forge is the workplace of a blacksmith. It also means fireplace, or hearth, where the blacksmith heats the metal.

Happy writing to the fourth and fifth grade students.

Kenosha County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Kevin Muhlenbeck	262.859.1824
Vice President and YFA Chair, Dan Kirchner	262.818.2795
Secretary-Treasurer, Daniel Kevek	262.308.6058
Promotion and Education Chair, Kim Muhlenbeck	262.206.5780
Director, Tim Edquist	262.909.9928
Director, Ben Harbach	262.859.1836
Director, Wilfred Meier	262.857.7202
Kenosha County Farm Bureau	877.432.9489
WFBF Board Director, Dave Daniels	262.878.5035
WFBF Promotion and Education, George Mroch	262.661.4436
WFBF YFA, Charlie Oberhaus	262.337.2448
District 1 Coordinator, Patti Roden	866.355.7341
RMIC District Manager, Linda Schopen	262.522.8620

Ag Today Readers

Agriculture is everywhere. From the time we wake up in the morning until we end our day at night, we have encountered agriculture through the food we eat, the clothes we wear and the fuel we use for transportation. Ag Today is a great reading supplement for third through fifth grade elementary students to learn about agriculture.

The six issues touch on the six themes of the National Agricultural Literacy Outcomes that can be integrated into science, social studies and language arts curriculum. Each reader provides real-world connections to STEM and makes learning relevant for students in becoming agriculturally literate. The issue titles are:

- Agriculture is Everywhere
- Food, Health and Lifestyle
- Agriculture and the Environment
- Culture, Society, Economy and Geography
- Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM)
- Plants and Animals for Food, Fiber and Energy

Ag Today Readers come in a set with one Educator Guide and 25 student guides. They are \$5 per packet. They also may be downloaded for free from www.agclassroom.org/student/agtoday.cfm.

