

Marinette County Farm Bureau

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Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

Shawano County Farm Bureau's Kristi Fiedler Wins WFBF Discussion Meet

Congratulations to Kristi Fiedler, a Shawano County Farm Bureau YFA member, winner of the 2016 WFBF Young Farmer and Agriculturalist Discussion Meet at the WFBF Annual Meeting and YFA Conference on December 2-5 in Wisconsin Dells.

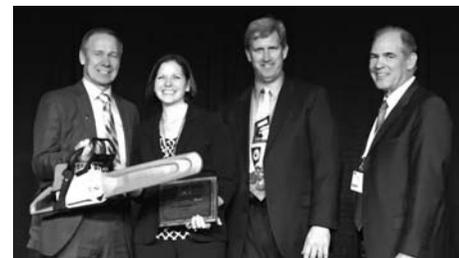
The Discussion Meet consists of a discussion panel where Farm Bureau members between the ages of 18 and 35 are judged on their ability to express ideas and opinions to reach a solution on agricultural issues.

Kristi is associate vice president of U.S. Technical Services for Genex. She earned a bachelor's degree in animal science from UW-Platteville and a master's degree in management from the University of Phoenix. She served on the YFA Committee from 2013 to 2015 with her husband, Brian.

Kristi received a chain saw from Midwest Stihl and a free financial plan, provided by Rural Mutual Insurance.

In January, Kristi represented Wisconsin and competed in the national Discussion Meet at the American Farm Bureau Federation's 98th Annual Conference in Phoenix, Arizona.

She also qualifies for the YFA trip to Washington, D.C., in 2018; as a guest of the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation during the 2017 WFBF Annual Meeting and YFA Conference and in August of 2017, as a special guest at the annual meeting of GROWMARK, Inc., in Chicago.



WFBF President Jim Holte, Kevin Malchine from Growmark and Peter Pelizza from Rural Mutual Insurance presented Kristi Fiedler with a Stihl chain saw and other prizes as winner of the 2016 WFBF YFA Discussion Meet.

Meet Adam Kuczer, the New District 7 Board Director



Adam Kuczer and his wife Becky have five children including: Nicholas, 11; Sawyer, 9; Clara, 6; Cadence, 6; and Andrew, 3.

County near Pulaski. The crops include corn, soybeans, wheat and alfalfa.

Adam was elected to serve a three-year term on the WFBF Board of Directors representing District 7 (Langlade, Marinette, Oconto, Outagamie, Shawano and Waupaca counties).

He succeeds Wayne Staidl of Peshtigo, who retired from the WFBF Board of Directors in December after 17 years of service.

The family custom raises 270 heifers and grows crops on 900 acres in Shawano

Plan to Attend Ag Day at the Capitol

Join us for Ag Day at the Capitol on **March 8** at the Monona Terrace Conference Center in Madison. Get out and support agriculture with your legislators. Be the voice that makes a difference.

The Marinette County Farm Bureau will cover your cost to attend this one-day event. The schedule for the day is:

- 11 a.m. - Registration
- 11:30 a.m. - Opening program
- 11:45 a.m. - Lunch
- 12:45 p.m. - Legislative briefings
- 3 p.m. - Leave for Capitol visits

For more information or to register by **March 1**, please contact Ryan Staidl at 715.938.2713. We will arrange to car pool to the event.





COUNTYnews

MARINETTE COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION

Marinette County Farm Bureau Members Celebrate Success at Annual Meeting

On October 11, the Marinette County Farm Bureau annual meeting was held at Biundo's Restaurant in Peshtigo with 22 members and guests attending.

The keynote speaker was State Representative John Nygren, who spoke about the Heroin Opioid Prevention and Education (H.O.P.E.) efforts in the county and state.

Affiliate company reports were given by Tom Gustafson of Rural Mutual Insurance and Ryan Gabrielson of Insight FS.

Members approved a bylaw change that renamed the women's committee to the promotion and education committee.

Marinette County Farm Bureau President Ryan Staidl conducted the meeting and policy development committee chair Corey Kuchta conducted the policy development session of the meeting. The resolutions that were adopted were:

1. The current fence law should be modified to require livestock farmers to be responsible for maintaining fences to contain their

livestock. We oppose any general requirement that all streams or lakes must be fenced.

2. Government should not restrict family labor on farms.
3. Ag Labor: We support policies and programs to maintain an adequately skilled workforce for the agriculture industry.
4. We support expanded high speed internet coverage for rural areas.
5. We support requiring DATCP to re-evaluate atrazine prohibition areas every 5 years to determine if they are still needed.
6. EPA should not be allowed to overrule Wisconsin state DNR regulations.
7. Due to variations in karst areas in Wisconsin, we shouldn't get a blanket regulation that would cover the entire state. Regulations should be specific to individual areas affected.

Directors elected for this year were: Bill Kempka, Dan Klimek, Jerry Rogge, Monica Schwittay, Amanda Staidl, Ryan Staidl, Wayne Staidl, Karl Stibbe and Cindi Wautier.

Delegates elected to the WFBF Annual Meeting were: Bill Kempka, Corey Kuchta and Ryan Staidl.



State Representative John Nygren was the keynote speaker.



Ryan Gabrielson from Insight FS gave an update.



Corey Kuchta led the proposed resolutions discussion during the Marinette County Farm Bureau annual meeting.



Rural Mutual Insurance district manager Tom Gustafson introduced the farm policy dividend program.



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District 7 WFBF Board Member Retires

During the WFBF Annual Meeting in December, District 7 Board of Director Wayne Staidl announced his retirement. He represented District 7 for the last 17 years. Wayne and his son Ryan own and operate a crop and beef farm near Peshtigo in Marinette County. They own multiple parcels and rent additional acres where they grow corn, soybeans, hay and wheat.

Wayne and his wife Mary have three two other children and six grandchildren. Mary worked at the Rural Mutual Insurance Company office in Pound for many years. The couple started farming with his parents the same year he earned a degree in farm management from UW-River Falls and that they were married.

As a young member, he participated in Farm Bureau's Achievement Award, served as the secretary and treasurer of the Marinette County

Farm Bureau and coordinated fruit sale fundraisers. He later served on the state Dairy Committee.

Wayne served on the Wisconsin Cattlemen's Association and as the co-chair of Farm Bureau's special state transportation task force looking at ag transportation issues. Also interested in local government, he has served four terms as chair of the Town of Grover in Marinette County.

"My town board experience has made me a better WFBF Director and vice versa," said Wayne. "I've learned to see the other side of the story and I enjoy helping others solve problems and concerns and seeing them satisfied with the results."

Wayne continues to be active in the Marinette County Farm Bureau, serving as vice president and membership chair.



WFBF President Jim Holte recognized retiring WFBF Board of Director Wayne Staidl and his wife Mary. Wayne represented District 7 for 17 years.

Marinette County Farm Bureau Members Attend WFBF Annual Meeting



Delegate Ryan Staidl shared his opinion during the resolutions session.

grassroots policy development process.

Recognizing the importance of natural resources and the environment, delegates opposed any type of blanket regulation that would encompass the entire state because of the variations in karst types throughout Wisconsin. Regulations should be specific to the unique areas affected.

Delegates displayed frustration with the current federal Dairy Margin Protection Program. After considerable in-depth discussion, they concluded the need for an improved program leading up to the 2018 Farm Bill.

Delegates at the WFBF Annual Meeting established new policy directives for the organization at the Kalahari Resorts in Wisconsin Dells.

Farm Bureau delegates adopted the policies that will guide the legislative agenda for the state's largest general farm organization. Resolutions were submitted by delegates as part of a

Delegates supported an increase in the overall appropriation for the broadband grant program. They supported improving and upgrading the strength and reliability of coverage to enable efficient use of technology in farming practices in rural areas.

Delegates supported disclosure of wolf incidents on farms in Wisconsin by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The public information should be located on the DNR website, establishing warning areas when wolf packs are involved and providing instant email notification of all incidents.

In regards to livestock and animal welfare, delegates supported farmers in consultation with their veterinarians deciding and administering husbandry practices that are appropriate for their farm. They also supported more education for consumers on the merits of common animal husbandry practices. In addition, delegates supported the use of scientifically proven technologies for agricultural production practices.

Delegates from the Wisconsin Farm Bureau's 61 county Farm Bureaus also voted to:

- Support the state's livestock premise registration program.
- Support the state's fence law.

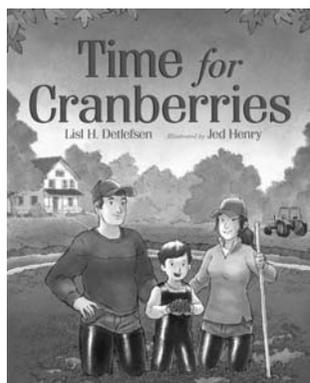
- Support a process by which atrazine restricted areas can be repealed.
- Support the inclusion of wild parsnip on the state's noxious weed list.
- Support funding for the Wisconsin Environmental Education Board.

On the federal level, delegates supported:

- Improving milk quality by lowering the somatic cell count limit to 400,000.
- The use of scientifically proven technologies for agricultural production practices.
- Farmers in consultation with their veterinarians deciding and administering husbandry practices that are appropriate for the farm.
- Requiring Congressional approval of any new federal regulation before final implementation.

The federal resolutions were forwarded to the American Farm Bureau Federation and were considered at its annual meeting in January.

Ag in the Classroom Essay Contest and Book of the Year Announced



The book of the year is out! The title is *Time for Cranberries!*

With the book as a resource the 2017 Ag in the Classroom essay contest theme is "Tell us about cranberry production in Wisconsin during one of the four seasons."

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, parents' names, teacher's name and email address school name, telephone number and address and county on the back of the essay. Please do not identify the student on the front side.

Please send essay contest entries to Cindi Wautier, N4015 Business 141 Pound, WI 54161-9743 by **April 1** so that we can arrange for a county winner to be selected and sent in for the state competition.

Please keep in mind, you don't have to wait until **March 30** to do this. Keep promoting agriculture!



Matching Grants Available To Promote Literacy

The Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom Program is accepting applications for matching grants that will be awarded to groups that promote agricultural literacy in K-12 schools.

Ag in the Classroom will award up to \$500 to groups sponsoring programs or projects that promote agricultural literacy. Projects considered for grants must be targeted to grades pre-K through 12 and should enhance student knowledge of the contribution made by agriculture.

Projects that use funds toward an ongoing, sustainable education effort will receive preference over those that involve a one-time program. Applicants must have a matching source for their project equal to the amount of the Ag in the Classroom grant.

The application deadline is: **March 1**. To download an application, visit www.wisagclassroom.org.

For more information, please contact Ag in the Classroom coordinator Darlene Arneson at darneson@wfbf.com or 608.828.5644.



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.

District 7 YFA Report By Brian Preder

Hello District 7 YFA members. As we start the new year, I hope that you had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

It was another great year of Farm Bureau tradition. In December, that tradition was easy to see during the YFA Conference at the Kalahari Resorts in Wisconsin Dells.

More than 450 YFA members attended the conference and listened to a great keynote speaker Vance Crowe, who shared his experience as the director of millennial engagement for Monsanto. He encouraged us to tell our story of tradition.

Attendees built on their knowledge during breakout sessions ranging from how to get the most out of Farm Bureau to getting hands-on exposure to some of the newest apps for agriculture. Attendees also networked and met YFA members from around the state.

Thank you to Kristi Fielder from Shawano County, Kristy Erickson from Outagamie County and Kyle Much from Waupaca County for representing District 7 YFA in the Discussion Meet. Kristi Fielder and Kristy Erickson advanced to the Elite 8 round.

For the second year in a row, District 7 had a YFA member advance and win the Final 4 round. Congratulations to Kristi

Fielder on winning the coveted STHIL chainsaw! In January, Kristi represented Wisconsin during the AFBF Annual Convention in Phoenix, Arizona.

Our first District 7 YFA event is **February 18**. We scheduled the annual Green Bay Gambler's hockey game as a joint event with District 6. After the hockey game, we will enjoy pizza and soda in the Indoor Patio at Green Bay Distillery. It is a great opportunity to meet fellow YFA members. To purchase your tickets, please contact me or your county YFA chair by **February 1**.



Green Bay Gamblers versus the Sioux City Musketeers on Saturday, February 18; game time 7:05 p.m. at the Resch Center, 1901 S. Oneida Street, Green Bay.

Tickets
 \$16 - adults
 \$13 - children ages 4 to 14
 Free - children 3 and younger

As always, if you have ideas for events or want to help with a county event, please let me know. Stay warm and keep the Farm Bureau tradition alive.

AFB Foundation is Creating a Foundation Outreach Team



AMERICAN FARM BUREAU
FOUNDATION FOR AGRICULTURE

You can help others learn what the AFB Foundation has to offer by presenting at regional and state events.

Outreach team members will receive advance notice on grants and new materials, be featured in new resources, have opportunities to pilot new

programs and influence the development of new resources.

For more information, visit www.agfoundation.org/outreach-team.

YFA Report By Bill Kempka

Hi, my name is Bill Kempka and I'm the new Marinette County Farm Bureau Young Farmer and Agriculturist (YFA) committee chair.

I'm a fourth generation farmer and I work on my grandfather's farm milking cows and driving tractor. I wouldn't want it any other way.

This year, I want to organize some fun and educational YFA events so watch for more details.



WFBF Seeks Rural Route Photos

Wisconsin Farm Bureau members live and work in some of the most beautiful places. In *Rural Route*, WFBF wants to highlight those sights with your families and friends.

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



Marinette County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Ryan Staidl 715.582.0928
 Vice President, Wayne Staidl 715.582.3671
 Secretary/Treasurer, Cindi Wautier 920.495.1389
 Promotion & Education Chair,
 Amanda Staidl 715.582.0928
 YFA Chair, William Kempka 920.591.1878

Director, Dan Klimek 715.923.8875
 Director, Gerald Rogge 920.897.3297
 Director, Monica Schwittay 715.582.3211
 Director, Karl Stibbe 715.923.2820

Shawano County Farm Bureau 888.377.0380
 WFBF Board Director, Adam Kuczer 920.609.0718
 District 7 Coordinator, Wes Raddatz 866.355.7346
 RMIC District Manager, Tom Gustafson 920.420.1106

The board meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Pound Village Hall.

'Playbook' is a Great Resource

By Katelin Haglund

Are you looking for an idea for an activity and not sure where to start? Checkout the Promotion and Education Committee's 'Playbook.'



The 'Playbook' contains activities and events that other counties have held around the state for Ag in the Classroom, consumer outreach, education and ag promotion, fundraising, member development and policy and development implementation. The Playbook was created as a resource for members to share ideas. Look for the 'Playbook' link on the WFBF home page.

Do you have a successful event or activity (or even not-so successful)? The Promotion and Education Committee wants you to share your knowledge and submit your 'play' to the 'Playbook.'

We want to keep the ideas flowing and will update the 'Playbook' quarterly so the next update will be **March 15**. Adding a play to the 'Playbook' is simple.

1. Visit www.wfbf.com.
2. Click on the 'Playbook' icon.
3. Download the 'play' submission page.
4. Fill out.
5. Email to Deb Raemisch at draemisch@wfbf.com.

If you have questions or want help, please contact me at 715.210.5384 or katelinhaglund@gmail.com.

Humor Corner

By Wes Raddatz, District 7 Coordinator

Do we really need to find a 'Fountain of Youth'?
 It would be better to find a 'fountain of Smart!'

Did you hear about the origami store?
 It folded.

Why is your nose in the middle of your face?
 Because it is the scenter.

What does a dentist call x-rays?
 Tooth pics.

