



# Racine County Farm Bureau

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Linda Schopen- District Manager

## Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

### Ronald McDonald House Event

Jacque Streuder, Carol Thelen and Marge Demuth helped at the Ronald McDonald House on Saturday, May 3 with other District 1 Farm Bureau members providing meals for the guests (families of patients at Children's Hospital).

Our task was to assemble and package foods for the guests to select their own lunch items as they left for long days at the hospital. Along with a mom and her two school-age daughters, we made



Members of Racine and Jefferson County Farm Bureau helped pack lunches at the Ronald McDonald House.

meat and cheese sandwiches, and prepared fruits and vegetables for individual salads. We furnished Craisins and string cheese for easy-to-carry snack foods.

Along with the prepared foods, the lunch centers have yogurt, juices, milk, whole fruits, condiments and all the necessary supplies for quickly packing a lunch. In addition to the lunches, breakfasts and evening dinners are available to the guests in the Ronald McDonald House dining room.

We were given a tour of the facility (which is in the middle of a construction project doubling its size). Our three-hour experience that Saturday afternoon was both heartwarming and humbling as we realized we were only a very small part of the hundreds of volunteers providing meals for the 30-35 guests.



Marge Demuth helped pack lunches at the Ronald McDonald House.

### Women Spring Fling Enjoyed by Many By Donna Hanson

The Racine County women who attended Spring Fling at the beautiful new Kenosha Civil War Museum on March 29 were impressed with this excellent view of the war from the perspective of people in the upper Midwest, unlike any other Civil War Museum in the country. Exhibits are remarkable, including a unique high-tech 360° movie titled Seeing the Elephant. A Civil War reenactment group was also on the premises that day.



The event was arranged by the Kenosha County Women's committee (thank you!) who also served lunch. Racine County members who attended were Darlene Ehrhart, Jacque Strueder, Beulah Skewes, Betty VanRyen, Doris Malchine and Donna Hanson.

I highly recommend this for a day trip and plan to spend several hours. You'll learn what Seeing the Elephant means and while you are there, visit the adjacent Kenosha Historical Museum which houses the remains of the woolly mammoth found on an area farm. Google Kenosha Civil War Museum for more information.

### Fair Volunteers Needed

The Racine County Fair runs July 23-27. Volunteers are needed to work in the cream puff stand throughout the week. Come and help if you can. We have many shift openings. Our cream puff stand is the number one fundraiser for the Racine County Women's committee. With the profits generated, we are able to provide college scholarships, donate to the county food banks, support Ag in the Classroom and commodity promotions and participate in many other activities geared toward promoting Wisconsin agriculture.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact fair coordinator Doris Malchine at 262.895.2206 or [jmalchine@tds.net](mailto:jmalchine@tds.net).





# COUNTYnews

RACINE COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION

## Scholarship Recipients Named

The Racine County Farm Bureau is pleased to announce the four winners of their 2014 Scholarships.

- **Christina Rowntree**, daughter of Paul and Toni Rowntree, is a 2014 graduate from Waterford Union High School and will be attending UW-Madison studying agricultural business.



- **Hannah Waldron**, daughter of Steve and Jenny Waldron, is a 2014 graduate from Waterford Union High School and will be attending UW-Platteville studying agricultural education and communications.



- **Kallie Jo Kastenson**, daughter of Rick and Julie Kastenson, is a 2013 graduate from Waterford Union High School and is attending UW-Platteville studying agriculture education.



- **William Ehlen**, son of William and Patricia Ehlen, is a 2010 graduate from Burlington High School and is attending UW-Madison studying food science.



**We wish all of these young people success in the pursuit of their academic goals. Congratulations!**

## CPR Class Hosted

On March 22 members of Racine and Kenosha County Farm Bureau, Keith and Beth Jacobson, Dave Daniels, Connie Meier, Kevin and Kim Muhlenbeck, met at the Paris Municipal Town Hall for a very important CPR and basic first aid training. The instructor was Amy Willems from the Kenosha Visiting Nurse Association.



They learned first hand how important and critical knowing CPR is to the patient in those few vital moments. Everyone had hands-on experience to performing CPR on dummies along with how to use portable defibrillators. The instructor then had participants pair up and assigned various first aid scenarios and asked how each situation would be handled.

Once completed, certificate cards were distributed and questions were asked. The class was very beneficial and we hope more participants will attend in the future.

## Bowling Event Brings Fun!



Thank you to all those who attended the Racine County Farm Bureau Bowling Social on March 18 at River City Lanes in Waterford. Everyone in attendance had a great time and we would like to thank Rural Mutual Insurance, Farm Bureau and FS for donating door prizes. Watch next year's newsletter for another bowling social!

## Membership Goal Achieved!

**Congratulations** to all the volunteers who put their time and effort into this year's membership drive. With your help, we reached our new voting goal by the April 30 deadline. This achievement entitles our county to receive \$1,000 from WFBF.

Volunteers who signed up new members will receive \$20 per member signed from WFBF. The WFBF incentive program for signing new members runs through September 30.

In addition, Farm Bureau volunteers qualify as members of the Producer Club by signing five or more new Farm Bureau members during the membership year. Members of the 2014 Producer Club will enjoy an exclusive gathering for members and their spouse or guest at the 2014 WFBF Annual Meeting in December. Producer Club members also receive a commemorative pin and special gift in recognition of their efforts.

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## YFA Members! Mark your Calendars!

There are great opportunities for YFA members in Racine County to participate in district and state events. Remember that these activities are available to voting members ages 18-35.

**Discussion Meet:** The District 1 Discussion Meet has been set for **Tuesday, August 19** at Williams Homestead Farm (W289N520 Elmhurst Drive, Waukesha). A farm tour will be at 6 p.m. with the Discussion Meet starting at 7 p.m. Snacks will be available following the Discussion Meet. The Discussion Meet is an activity designed to build crucial skills in young, active farmers and agriculturalists. By participating, members 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. This year's topic is: **How can young farmers and ranchers work to encourage membership growth and member engagement for the county, state and national Farm Bureau organizations?**

**Achievement Award:** The ideal candidate(s) for the Achievement Award is an individual or couple involved in production agriculture with a majority of their income subject to normal production risks. Selection of the winning YFA competitor is based on his/her efforts in production agriculture and leadership achievement. Participation in this program with individual recognition and the resulting publicity will help build the organization. **Applications are due July 1, 2014.**

**Excellence in Agriculture:** The Farm Bureau Excellence in Agriculture Award Program is designed as an opportunity for YFA members, while actively contributing and growing through their involvement in Farm Bureau and agriculture, to earn recognition. Participants will be judged on their involvement in agriculture, leadership ability, involvement and participation in Farm Bureau and other organizations (i.e., civic, service and community). The ideal candidate(s) for the Excellence in Agriculture Award is an individual or couple who do not have the majority of their income subject to normal production risk. **Applications are due July 1, 2014.**

If you are a YFA member interested in participating in any of these activities, please contact Peter Muth, District 1 YFA Representative, at 262.689.2536.

## Malchine Family Honored at Farm City Night

The 85<sup>th</sup> Burlington Farm-City Night was held on Monday, March 31. The guest speaker was Channel 12 meteorologist who talked about the different weather types. The Heritage Award was presented to the Malchine Family who has a fourth generation farm.

### Malchine Farm History

The Malchine Farm history in America dates back to the early 1850s. The Johann Malchin family, now spelled Malchine, came to this country in 1853 from Prussia. Making the long journey to America with him was his wife Wilhelmina, 3 sons, August, Albrecht and Otto and five other relatives. Even though he was believed to be a wealthy man in his home country, they brought little with them to the U.S. The Malchin family settled in the Burlington area.

About the same time the Johann Stallbaum family made a similar trip across the ocean from Germany. The Stallbaum's traveled with Johann's wife, Kathrina and daughter Dorothea. They settled on the homesteaded property in the Town of Norway that is still home to Malchine Farms, Inc. of today.

The Malchin family and the Stallbaum family were charter members of St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Waterford. It was there that Albrecht Malchin, the middle son, and Dorothea Stallbaum met. They married and lived and worked at the Johann Stallbaum farm. They had six children, five girls and one son, Albert, who became the third generation to work the original homestead. One sister, Emma, married a son from another well-known Waterford family, Otto Noll. It was during this time the decision was made to move the farm buildings about 400 yards to the west where the existing barn and the first house was built in the 1880s. In fact, there is an engraved stone in the barn that has the year 1884 along with the Malchin name. Mike currently lives in that first farmhouse.

The farm became the responsibility of Albert Malchin as a teenager since his father, Albrecht, passed at a young age. Albert married Hilda Johnson and they had one son, John Albert, representing the fourth generation on the homestead. Hilda made the decision to add an "e" to the end of Malchin. During this time a second home was added which was built in 1918 and Kelly and Kevin live in that house today.

John Albert Malchine married Esther Johnson, whose family farmed in the Wind Lake area. They had two daughters, Joan and Donna and one son John Lee Malchine. John Albert probably had the shortest "ownership" tenure of all the generations. After his mother Hilda died in 1967 he inherited the farm and paid several thousands in inheritance tax which was a substantial amount of money in those days. He

vowed to start selling the farm to his son only a few short years after he became the owner. While Joan married Ed, a teacher, and still lives in Whitewater, Donna married Duke Hanson and their family farm was recognized last year for their heritage at this event.

John Lee Malchine married Doris Williams and they had two sons, Mike and Kevin, the sixth generation. While church and civic involvement was always a staple in the lives throughout the Malchine generations, John Lee took that duty to a new level, as many of you are aware. John served on many boards in his lifetime from school board to town boards. However, the desire to create a market for corn to support prices and allow farmers to not rely on government to make a living perhaps led to his crowning achievement, which was co-founding Badger State Ethanol in Monroe. John Lee passed away in March of 2007.



That brings us to today where the farm is currently operated by Mike and Kevin Malchine. Mike has three children, John Lawrence, Katie and Ryan. John Lawrence has his own trucking and livestock business and has two children, Alyssa and John Parkar. Katie works for Dousman Transport and is married to her husband Scott and they have one son, Ian. Ryan is actively engaged in the Malchine farm and is in the process of buying into it. Ryan represents the seventh generation to work on the Malchine Farm. Kevin married Kelly and they have three daughters, Stephanie, a student at UW-Madison, Shannon, a student at UW-La Crosse and Shauna, a junior at Waterford High School. Kevin also serves on the Badger State Ethanol board, Waterford High School board along with other ag-related cooperative boards.

Over the years Malchine Farms has grown from the original homestead of 160 acres to a farm that covers approximately 2,000 acres. Throughout the years there have been pigs, chickens, dairy and steers along with crops on Malchine Farms. Today, the cows, pigs and chickens are gone. There are about 180 steers, but otherwise the farm is strictly a cash crop business. Over the years, the land has raised cabbage, sod, oats and rye along with the more common crops of corn, soybeans, wheat and hay. Today, they raise corn and soybeans with a little wheat and hay.

There have been countless remodels of sheds, bins and barns along with updates to the houses built many years ago. State Highway 36 impacted the home farm when it came through in the late 1960s.

While we don't know what the future holds for our farm or agriculture, the one constant is change. Farming has journeyed through horse drawn plows to the GPS guided technology of today. Our farm has given our family 160 years of livelihood. Great memories and adventures for kids and a lifestyle based on hard work, tenacity, optimism, self-sufficiency, family, faith and community.

## Outstanding 4-H Youth Applications Available

The Outstanding 4-H Youth Award is available to any 4-H member 10 years and older whose family is a member of Racine County Farm Bureau.



There are two age categories; ages 10-13 and 14 and older by January 1. Applicants must include a 150-200 word story about their 4-H projects and activities.

Two youth in each category will receive a \$50 cash award. An individual can receive the award only once and all award winners are expected to help in the cream puff stand at the Racine County Fair the following year.

Applications are available on the Racine County Farm Bureau webpage ([wfbf.com/county-farm-bureaus/racine](http://wfbf.com/county-farm-bureaus/racine)) and are due **August 31**.

**Send completed applications to:  
Racine County Farm Bureau  
1701 Main Street  
Union Grove, WI 53182**

## 2014 County Fairs in District 1

Jefferson County Fair	July 9 - 13
Waukesha County Fair	July 16 - 20
Washington County Fair	July 22 - 27
Racine County Fair	July 23 - 27
Ozaukee County Fair	July 30 - August 3
Kenosha County Fair	August 13-17
Walworth County Fair	August 27 - September 1

## 2014 Essay Contest Winner Announced

This year's winning essay was written by fifth grade student Lucas Johnson who attends Woodfield Elementary. His essay was titled "A Healthy Way to Eat: Wisconsin Gardens"

A lone farmer works in his garden preparing crops for harvest. He is one of many home-owned farms in Wisconsin. Wisconsin farms provide many food choices for us. Farms aren't the only source of fresh crops. Many citizens of Wisconsin garden. Gardens are usually smaller than farms and typically for individual use.

There are not only fruit and vegetable gardens, there are flower gardens too. In the spring they are bursting with beautiful shades of colors. Farming and gardening are great hobbies. Farms and gardens are also good ways to help out in your community.

People garden many different healthy food choices. Let's start with the tomato. You can do so many things with tomatoes. You can make salsa, put them on salads, or make pizza sauce. Canning tomatoes is a great way to preserve them and have fresh sauce or salsa all winter long. Another healthy food is cucumbers. You can put them on salads, you can pickle them, or, you can make them into relish.

Gardens provide for more than just personal uses. The foods gardened are sometimes sold at farmers' markets and some people start their own food carts. Many communities have community gardens. Community gardens are placed where people share a large area of land that gets divided. You buy plots or sections of the given land, and that is your personal space to garden. Community gardens are ideal for places where there are small yards. Community gardens are a great way to encourage healthy eating.

Gardens of Wisconsin give us so much. There is nothing like the sugary sweetness of a cherry tomato fresh off the vine, or the crisp crunch of a freshly picked apple. Spring is in the air! Have you started your garden?

## Pop Tabs Wanted!

Keep saving your pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House! Ronald McDonald House is a "home away from home" for families of seriously ill or injured children. Since their doors opened in 1984, more than 35,000 families have stayed at the Ronald McDonald House in Milwaukee while their child received critical medical care. In 2013 alone, they served nearly 1,000 families. They have been at full occupancy with 38 guest rooms—often with a wait list of anywhere from five to twenty families each day.



At the District 1 Ronald McDonald House event on May 3, 78.85 pounds of pop tabs were collected. Each district is having a competition that goes through December 2014, so keep saving your pop tabs.

## Family Farm Weekend Planned for September 6-7

The Milwaukee County Zoo welcomes families to enjoy a bushel full of fun and activity down on our farm, as Family Farm Weekend, sponsored by Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board, takes place Saturday and Sunday, September 6 and 7.

Most of the day's activities will be in the Zoo's Northwestern Mutual Family Farm, the last working farm in the city of Milwaukee, complete with dairy cows and a milking parlor. The weekend features activities like food demonstrations, children's pedal tractor-pull contest and a local farmer's market featuring

## Annual Meeting Date Set

The Racine County Farm Bureau annual meeting date has been set for **September 9** at the American Legion Hall in Union Grove. Registration begins at 6 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m. *Watch your mailbox for a postcard with further details as the meeting date approaches.*

save • the • date  
09 • 09 • 14

## District 1 Policy Development Meeting Scheduled

The District 1 Policy Development meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, August 7 at 7 p.m. at The Machine Shed** (N14W24145 Tower Place, Pewaukee, WI 53072).

For more information about the policy development meeting contact Patti Roden at [proden@wfbf.com](mailto:proden@wfbf.com).

## Want to Attend the Summit?

The three ladies from Racine County who attended this year's Wisconsin Ag Women's Summit were Jenny Waldren, Julie Kastenson and Julie Moyer. They found the time spent at the summit very worthwhile and would like to see others from Racine County take part in the seminar next year. The ladies attended a number of very interesting sessions that they found very informative. They especially felt some of the young women in agriculture would find the summit beneficial. The Racine County Women's committee offered to cover the cost of the summit for the ladies and has plans to do that again for any member interested in attending in 2015.

## Racine County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Keith Jacobson	414.852.1744
Vice President, Brian Schaal	262.492.9909
Secretary/Treasurer, Elaine Beguhl	262.534.2392
Women's Chair, Marge Demuth	262.878.2530
YFA Chair, Peter Novak	262.989.6362

Director, Steve Henningfield	262.661.9991
Director, Jeff Rice	262.210.4973
Director, Jeff Schmeckel	262.210.2302
Director, John Scott	262.994.4324
Director, Jacquie Strueder	414.469.5645

Racine 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

## President's Message

Hello fellow members,

I hope by the time you are reading this summer weather has finally arrived, because when I started writing this the temperature is 39 with light rain, and it's the middle of May! The fact that I cut my lawn on March 22 in 2012 (and it needed it) seems like a distant memory now.

On March 18, I had the privilege of attending a tax reform meeting at Gateway in Racine with many individuals from the business and manufacturing community. This was one of a few meetings that were held statewide. It was chaired by Department of Revenue secretary Rick Chandler and Lieutenant Governor Rebecca Kleefisch and attended by about 20 from the business community. Also in attendance was State Representative Tom Wetherston. It was interesting to hear how different taxes affect various businesses in different ways. I stressed to them how use-value has helped keep farmland in our area from being sold for development and what levels of property taxation farmers would be facing without it. (I cannot stress enough how the savings from only ONE acre of land literally pays for your Farm Bureau membership!) The purpose of the meeting was to explore different possible tax revenue sources, not to raise taxes.

Also by now I'm sure you are all aware of the implements of husbandry (IOH) bill Governor Walker signed that regulates farm machinery on public roadways. Although not perfect, I think we should be happy with the bill. Farmers should thank WFBF for representing us well in the formation of the law and once again, I cannot stress enough the importance of your memberships.

Keep an eye and an ear on Washington in regard to the proposed water rules and the tax laws. The EPA would be given unbelievable regulatory powers over all waters. And if the tax laws are not extended, business expensing and depreciation will change dramatically, affecting farms of all sizes.

So pay attention to the news while we're busy with planting this spring. We all will be in the spring and summer season when there just never seems to be enough hours in the day. But also take time for essential rest at the end of the day. Accidents happen mostly when we're over-tired and in a hurry. So make time for family and friends and rest and relaxation. Everyone have a productive and safe growing season and see you at the fair.

**Keith Jacobson**  
Racine County Farm Bureau President