

Shawano County Farm Bureau

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Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

Shawano County Farm Bureau Scholarship Recipients

By Kristi Fiedler, District 7 YFA Representative

In 2013, Shawano County Farm Bureau Dairy Brunch committee decided that if income is earned from Brunch on the Farm it should go toward awarding two \$500 scholarships each year. The applicants must have volunteered at the Shawano County Brunch on the Farm, demonstrate leadership in school or local organizations, be earning or plan to earn an advanced degree in agriculture and maintain good grades.



Ashley Bergsbaken accepted her scholarship.

The 2014 scholarships went to Lindsay Anderson from Gresham and Ashley Bergsbaken from Bonduel. Lindsay will be attending UW-River Falls in the fall and plans to be an ag education teacher. Ashley plans to earn a degree in communications and public relations from UW-La Crosse. Ashley has goals to be actively promoting agriculture through the State FFA committee and Alice in Dairyland. Congratulations to both Lindsay and Ashley for their current and future achievements!



Lindsay Anderson accepted one of the Farm Bureau scholarships at the Ag Awards Banquet.

District 7 YFA Report By Brian and Kristi Fiedler

Spring has finally arrived! We wish you all a safe planting season.

YFA Members! Mark your Calendars!

There are great opportunities for YFA members in District 7 to participate in district and state events. Remember that these activities are available to voting members ages 18-35.

Discussion Meet: The District 7 Discussion Meet has been set for **Thursday, August 7** at the CRI Resource Center in Shawano. Dinner will be at 7 p.m. with the discussion starting at 8 p.m. 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 pro-

Contests Awards

duction 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 and are interested in participating in any of these activities, please contact Kristi Fiedler, District 7 YFA Representative at 920.737.7640 or kfiedler@crinet.com.



COUNTYnews

SHAWANO COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION

Shawano County OYF and Friends of Agriculture Awards Banquet By Tammy Styczynski



(Back L to R) Gary Tauchen (Friend of Ag) Roger Neumann (Second Miler), Allen Kohn (Conservation Farmer), Jack Kucksdorf (Tree Farmer of the Year) (front L to R) Jay and Angie Schultz (Outstanding Young Farmers), Lindsay Anderson and Ashley Bergsbaken (scholarship recipients).

The 57th annual Shawano County Agricultural Awards Dinner and Banquet was held at The Main Event in Cecil on Friday, April 4.

The following awards were presented:

Outstanding Young Farmer: Jay and Angie Schultz have a 96-cow dairy farm and raise 380 acres of crops near Gresham. They raise all their own replacement dairy animals and grow alfalfa, corn, oats and winter wheat. All feed is harvested and fed to the dairy herd of Holsteins, Brown Swiss and Jerseys. The dairy herd is pastured during the seasonal months of the year. Jay is the fifth generation to farm the land. Jay and Angie have three children; Georgia (12), Leo (10) and Eli (7). They are members of the Gresham Town and Country 4-H Club, Shawano County Farm Bureau, Gresham FFA Alumni and the Miniature Horse Club. Jay and Angie thanked their families and the Farm Bureau for all the help and support they have been given.

Shawano County Friend of Agriculture was awarded to Gary Tauchen of Bonduel. Gary has dedicated his life to the needs of agriculture and is very active in many area organizations while serving as the Sixth District Representative in the State Assembly. Gary also updated the group on the most recent passing of the Implementations of Husbandry Bill and how it will affect farm equipment on the roadways.

The Second Miler this year is Roger Neumann of Krakow. Roger is active in the Junior Dairy Key Committee and the Small Animal Key Committee. He has been involved with volunteering at the Shawano County Fair for more than 34 years.

Tree Farmer of the Year went to the Jack Kucksdorf family from Red Springs. They own 77.5 acres of woodlands and some non-forest cover. The Red River flows through the eastern portion of the property. Tree Species that can be found growing on the property include red oak, sugar maple, basswood, white pine, aspen, balsam

fir and black ash. Forest management began in 1979. Jack is a member of the Woodland Owners Association-Wolf River Chapter and hosted a field day last spring. Jack was very appreciative of the award and is devoted to educate family and friends about the principals he has learned.

Conservation Farmer was awarded to Allen Kohn who farms in the Angelica Township growing 500 acres of alfalfa and corn. He practices chisel plowing for means of tillage and maintains buffer strips to prevent soil erosion. Allen has done many improvements to the farm over the years which include: reconstruction of the cow yard to prevent manure run-off, an addition to the manure pit for ample manure storage of the 330 cow dairy herd. He also added eave troughs to barn roofs to help separate clean water in a grass filter run-off. Allen also planted more than 2,000 trees in a non-tillable area of his land. Allen attributes his business success to those who have helped him along the way; his family, deceased wife, Pat and his good employees.

Farm Bureau Scholarships were new to this year's banquet. The Shawano County Farm Bureau awarded two \$500 Scholarships. Receiving those were Lindsay Anderson of Gresham and Ashley Bergsbaken of Bonduel. Lindsay will be studying agricultural education at UW-River Falls. Ashley will be majoring in communications and public relations with an agricultural minor at UW-La Crosse. Both students worked at the annual Brunch on the Farm.

The 2014 Agricultural Awards event was co-sponsored by:

AgVentures, LLC; Ardex All American Mineral; James and Jean Bleick; BMO Harris Bank of Shawano; Bonduel State Bank; Brown's Farm Service, LLC; Caroline Implement Company, Inc; Complete Services Bonduel, LLC; Dairy Department Inc., Mark Nellis; First State Bank; Graetz LS Sales; Greenstone Farm Credit Services; David and Jeri Henn; Intensive Dairy Care; Lighting Center of Green Bay; Mielkes S-Curve Dairy; Wayne and Connie Nischke; Nutrition Service Company, Inc; P&D Sales and Service, LLC; Premier Community Bank; Riesterer and Schnell, Inc; Russel Robaidek, Inc.; Seymour Flour Mill, Inc.; Shawano County Farm Bureau; State Representative Gary Tauchen and Jeff and Tammy Styczynski. Thank you for your sponsorship.

Shawano County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting

The Shawano County Farm Bureau annual meeting will be held *Thursday, October 16* at the Woodland Restaurant in Gresham at 8 p.m. The guest speaker will be WFBF Chief Administrative Officer Steve Freese.

SAVE the **DATE**

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Shawano County Brunch on the Farm By Deb Mielke, Shawano County Brunch on the Farm Chair

The 31st annual Shawano County Brunch on the Farm will be held on June 22 at the Cletus and Gloria Kurowski Dairy Farm. Their farm is located at W3052 Swamp Road in Bonduel. The farm is about five miles from the intersection of Highways 29 and 47. Cletus and Gloria milk about 100 cows in a swing parlor. They farm 560 acres of corn, alfalfa and beans on owned and rented land. They have five children and eight grandchildren. Their children are Alicia, Ashley, Tonia, Tia and Travis. Tia and Travis help on the farm.



The Kurowski Family will host the 2014 Shawano Brunch on the Farm.

New to the brunch this year will be a 5K walk/run called the Dairy Dash and Stroll. The run/walk will begin at 7:15 a.m. For more information, contact Kristi Fiedler or check out the

Shawano County Farm Bureau Facebook page.

A worship service will begin at 8 a.m. Breakfast will be served from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. The menu includes scrambled eggs with diced ham, sausages, hash browns, cheese samples, cinnamon bread, butter, milk, juice and ice cream topped with strawberries or maple syrup.

Tickets are \$7 per person, children 5-12 \$4 and children 4 and under FREE. Tickets are available at the door.

Other things to see or do at the brunch include: wagon rides, petting zoo, polka music by the KNX Band, food samples, children's games with prizes, pedal tractor pulls with trophies,

barrel train rides, Addie the cow, bouncy house and other fun and educational activities.

I will be looking for volunteers to help with the serving lines, Addie the Cow, the bouncy house, pedal tractor pull, etc. Bob Krause will be looking for tractor drivers and wagon narrators. The shifts are 7:30-10:30 a.m. and 10 a.m.-1 p.m. You can contact me at mielke@frontiernet.net.

The SCFB Dairy Committee is thinking about having a "Taste of Shawano County" tent at the annual brunch. If you grow or produce an edible agricultural product and are willing to give out samples along with information on your product, please contact Deb Mielke about having a table in the tent at the brunch.

See you at the brunch!

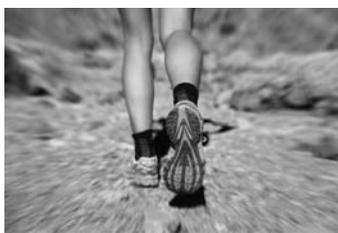
Dairy Dash & Stroll 5K Run/Walk Planned

Sunday, June 22 • Start time: 7:15 a.m.

Brunch on the Farm located at W3052 Swamp Road in Bonduel

Cost: Pre-registration- \$20 per individual or \$15 group rate per person (groups are 3 or more people)

Race day registration- \$25 per individual or \$20 group rate per person (groups are 3 or more people)



Proceeds will go to the "Feeding America" Invest an Acre program where they are matched dollar for dollar by Monsanto and then returned to the Shawano area food pantry.

More information and the registration link are on the Shawano County Farm Bureau webpage at wfbf.com and on the Shawano County Farm Bureau Facebook page. You may also register by visiting active.com and searching *dairy dash*.



Rural Health Initiative News

Meet Dawn & Alissa, RHI Staff Serving Your Area

Effective immediately, Dawn and Alissa are combining efforts to serve the tri-county area (Outagamie, Waupaca, and Shawano counties), which has been divided into two territories: Northern & Southern.

Dawn [Northern Territory]



Born and raised on a family farm in Belle Plaine, Dawn is familiar with the farm life culture. She has a nursing and wellness degree and has been employed with RHI for the past 6 years. When asked about her recent transition into Waupaca County, she stated her "passion to bring preventative

wellness services to farm families."

Alissa [Southern Territory]



Originally from Sherwood, Alissa is no stranger to the rural community. Alissa joined our staff mid-January and brings with her over 15 years of healthcare experience. When asked what she is most eager about, she said, "helping make a difference."

Questions? Want to schedule an appointment?

Call the RHI Staff member serving your territory:

- Northern Territory [Dawn] 715.524.8889
- Southern Territory [Alissa] 920.574.0141



Sincerely,
Rhonda Strebel, Executive Director

New Plat Book being Planned By Deb Mielke

The Shawano County Farm Bureau board of directors is out and about in the county signing ad agreements for the new Shawano County Plat Book which is due out this fall. An ad can be placed for as little as \$225. This is a three year ad and comes with a complimentary ebook OR hard copy. If you are interested in placing an ad for your company, civic group or special event, please let us know ASAP. The deadline for ads has technically passed, but we can sneak you in!



Thank you to the area businesses that have already placed their ads. We appreciate your support for this project.

For more information email Deb Mielke at mielke@frontiernet.net.

County "Ag and Me Essay Contest" Winner

This year's essay contest winner is Maddie Jacobsen. She is in Mrs. Lorraine Doell fifth grade class at St. Paul Lutheran School in Bonduel.

Wisconsin Gardens Provide Many Food Choices for Us

Wisconsin gardens provide many different food choices for us. In order to grow fruits and vegetables you need to have the right weather. Vegetables such as lettuce and spinach are best grown between fifty and seventy degrees fahrenheit. Also, plants do like rainwater better than the city drinking water.

At my school during lunch, they give you many choices of different vegetables, such as tomatoes, radishes, carrots, and cucumbers. They also give us fruits such as pears, peaches, strawberries, and cherries. My favorite vegetables are tomatoes, green beans, and corn, and my favorite fruits are strawberries, oranges, and bananas.

At my house, my stepmom grows tomatoes to make her special salsa, and sometimes I help her. The best temperature for growing tomatoes ranges to about 65-85 degrees fahrenheit. My friend Stephanie grows tomatoes, but she also grows corn, green and purple beans, pumpkins, zucchini, green peppers, cinderella pumpkins, and more.

Some advantages of having your own garden is that it is much cheaper than buying fruits and vegetables at a store, there are no artificial preservatives, you can control the amount of sugar and salt, and you can choose the chemicals and fertilizer. to preserve the fruits and vegetables you can can it and keep it in a freezer.

The 2014 Farm Bill A guest column by Congressman Reid Ribble



Standing Up for Wisconsin Agriculture

As Wisconsin's lone member of the House Agriculture Committee, I have worked hard to be a voice for Wisconsin's agriculture, food and forestry sectors since I arrived in Congress. I took this responsibility seriously during the process of writing the 2014 Farm Bill.

\$23 billion from the previous bill. The bill eliminates direct payments to farmers who were previously paid regardless of market conditions, and it also repeals or consolidates nearly 100 additional programs.

Representing America's Dairyland, I am pleased with the dairy policy reforms included in the bill. The Farm Bill offers dairy farmers a voluntary margin insurance program that will help them manage risk and will work well for Wisconsin farmers of all sizes. I also worked with my Wisconsin colleagues to ensure that the bill did not include provisions that would have unfairly harmed Wisconsin farmers.

While the road to final passage was long and complicated, I believe that the final product represents a step forward for Wisconsin agriculture. The 2014 Farm Bill will save taxpayers

In the weeks and months ahead, I'll continue to be a voice for Wisconsin agriculture as Congress tackles issues ranging from energy to trade to transportation.

New Program-Our Food Link

Many of you might be familiar with a program called 'Food Check-Out Week'. Historically, this week has been used to celebrate the week that many families have earned enough income to buy their groceries for the year. As our Farm Bureaus are able to get more active and engaged and there are more opportunities to meet with consumers throughout the year, the American Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee worked hard to design a program that could meet the needs of Farm Bureau's that work tirelessly promoting agriculture all year at various events.

'Our Food Link', replacing Food Check-Out Week, is a year-round program that county and state Farm Bureau volunteers can use to effectively reach consumers of all ages and backgrounds with information about today's agriculture. The AFBF has designed a planning toolkit to help counties get started thinking about projects that will engage people in your community. It includes sample activity ideas, media outreach sample text, program graphics and plenty of room to customize Our Food Link to your area. You can find more information about this program online at: www.fb.org/index.php?action=programs.ourfoodlink.

If you have an idea to help promote one of the many agricultural commodities in Shawano County, please let us know. Maybe you're willing to host a farm tour for consumers, or maybe it is to write an article for the county newsletter to share more about what you do. Maybe you aren't a farmer and you've got questions about how things on farms work or you might be an agri-business owner willing to open up your doors and play host to some of our Young Farmer and Agriculturist members. Whatever your idea is, we'd like to hear it. Please feel free to email your comments to Mary Olson at maydofarms@granitewave.com or Wes Raddatz at wraddatz@wfbf.com. Our Food Link is full of opportunities and we're looking forward to using them to make agriculture stronger in Shawano County!



Shawano County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Debbie Mielke 715.754.2694
 Vice President, Adam Kuczer 920.822.2772
 Secretary/Treasurer, Donald Pahlow 715.823.4048
 Women's Chair, Mary Olson 715.758.8348
 YFA Chair, Kellie Zahn 715.853.9681

Director, Sheri Beilke 715.793.4773
 Director, Scott Breित्रick 715.793.4713
 Director, David Henselin 715.853.5243
 Director Robert Krause 715.745.6689
 Director, Darryll Olson 715.758.8348
 Director, Donald Radloff 715.745.6329
 Director, Paul Schmidt 715.758.2390
 Director, Gordon Wesener 715.851.2249

Shawano County Farm Bureau 877.583.4438
 WFBF Board Director, Wayne Staidl 715.582.3671
 District 7 Coordinator, Wes Raddatz 866.355.7346
 RMIC District Manager, Chuck Reitz III 920.921.6402

Collect Pop Tabs for Ronald McDonald House



The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Women's Committee is collecting the little aluminum tabs from all kinds of cans: soda, pet food, fruits, vegetables and more. These tabs will be given to a Ronald McDonald house to be recycled in exchange for money. Each district will have a tub to put their tabs in at the WFBF Annual Meeting in Wisconsin Dells in December. Please have your family and friends save their tabs.

There will be several opportunities to collect these besides the WFBF Annual Meeting. You can bring them along to the Shawano County Brunch on the Farm (June 22), the Farm Bureau ice cream stand at the Shawano County Fair or the Shawano County Farm Bureau annual meeting (October 16). They may also be given to any member on the board.

Let's fight HUNGER

1 ACRE

at a time.

INVEST AN ACRE PLEDGE FORM

FILL OUT YOUR PLEDGE FORM AND ALLOCATE A DONATION AMOUNT.

DELIVER YOUR CHOPS

DELIVER YOUR DONATION FORM TO THE GRAIN ELEVATOR.

100% OF YOUR DONATION FUNDS LOCAL HUNGER RELIEF.

MONSANTO MATCHES YOUR DONATION, DOUBLING YOUR IMPACT.

THE LOCAL FOOD BANK WILL DISTRIBUTE THE DONATION TO FEED PEOPLE IN YOUR COMMUNITY.

INVEST AN ACRE AND FEED YOUR COMMUNITY.

As a farmer, you take pride in feeding the world, but did you know there's a great need to feed the hungry right where you live? That's why the **Invest An Acre program** is asking you to give an acre of hope by donating a portion of your crop sales to fight hunger directly in your community. **Your donation will be doubled**, up to \$675,000 nationally, by the Monsanto Company, so just the value of one bushel can provide as many as 100 meals. Imagine the impact of donating the value of one acre — the equivalent of thousands of meals for families in your community!

Visit HarvestToEndHungerWI.org for easy steps to enroll in this life-changing program. Made possible by generous support from UnitedHealthcare.

*Engagement in Invest An Acre is one way to participate in Harvest to End Hunger Wisconsin. ©2014 Harvest to End Hunger WI

Participating Food Banks

Across Wisconsin, the six food banks affiliated with the Wisconsin Association of Feeding America Food Banks* each have their own service area and procure and distribute food to thousands of food pantries, meal programs, and other hunger relief agency programs in the state.

*The mission of the Wisconsin Association of Feeding America Food Banks is to coordinate, support and enhance the work of Feeding America food banks that serve the state of Wisconsin by obtaining more food and funds, raising public awareness, and creating the partnerships necessary to end hunger. Together, we are striving forward toward a hunger-free Wisconsin.

For more information on becoming a partner please contact:

Keith Michalski
 Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin
kmichalski@feedingamericawis.org
 414.831.6318

HarvestToEndHungerWI.org

Feeding America
 Attn: Invest An Acre Program
 35 E. Wacker Drive, Suite 2000
 Chicago, IL 60601

Enclosed is a donation for the Invest An Acre Program.

Donor Name: _____

Amount Donated: _____

Donor's Address: _____

Date of Donation: _____

Check has been made payable to the Invest An Acre Program