

Washington County Farm Bureau

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Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

Women's Committee Visits Ronald McDonald House

On Saturday, February 22, Mariann Gundrum, Judy Kasten, Emily Krueger and Nancy Dornacker went to the Ronald McDonald House to prepare 40 lunches for the families staying at the house. They prepared sandwiches, a pasta/vegetable salad, and snacks of grapes, carrots and pea pods. This was part of the "Lunch-2-Go" program.



Mariann Gundrum, Judy Kasten, Nancy Dornacker and Emily Krueger stopped for a photo with Ronald McDonald.

The program provides brown bag lunches for guests of the Ronald McDonald House. The goal of the program is to eliminate the worry and the cost of a lunch for families residing in the House. They can grab the brown bag lunches on their way out. It was a great experience volunteering there.

This was the first year the Washington County Farm Bureau Women's

committee planned an event at the Ronald McDonald House. There is a long history between American Farm Bureau and the Ronald McDonald House. During the past two decades the American Farm Bureau has donated more than \$3 million in monetary and food donations. We left various brochures about farming and coloring books for the kids.

The Milwaukee Ronald McDonald House has 38 guest rooms and is at full capacity. Last year they had to turn away 617 families. They are currently expanding and are expecting to be at 70 guest rooms in August.



Mariann, Emily, Nancy and Judy prepared lunches.



Judy, Emily, Nancy and Mariann prepared the pasta salad.

WI Ag Women's Summit

The 2014 Wisconsin Ag Women's Summit took place March 14 and 15 in Madison. Keynote speaker Chariti



Gent opened the summit by teaching us how to chart our course through choppy waters by ignoring the "gremlins" and following our inner "captain".

Several breakout sessions were offered both days with topics including finance, management, leadership, technology (including social networking), herd health and even "stay"-cations. Friday night we shared a wonderful meal and congratulated the AgVocates of the Year, Laura Daniels and Karyn Schauf, after which we laughed the remainder of the night away with entertainment from Comedy City.

Saturday morning offered zumba or a bootcamp workout, and a Q&A session with the AgVocates of the Year. One more set of breakout sessions took place before lunch and a concluding presentation once again by Chariti Gent. It was a wonderful weekend of networking and meeting new friends (as well as old).



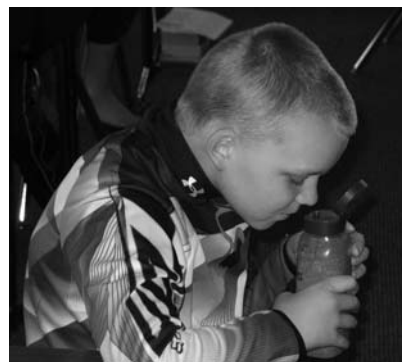
COUNTYnews

WASHINGTON COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION



Farmer in the Classroom

A HUGE thank you to Ross Bishop, Melanie Gierach, Garrett Goeller, Charlie Jones, Jacob Kohl, Liz Kohl, Dave and Heather Lettow, George and Kathy Muth, Mike Strupp and Helmut Wagner for visiting 14 county schools for our Farmer in the Classroom Program! From March 18-27, farmers spoke with nearly 700 fourth graders during their 21 presentations! We've touched the lives of those from Decorah, Barton, Erin, Amy Belle, St. Boniface, Rockfield, Kewaskum, Richfield, Friess Lake, MacArthur, Rossman, Countyline, St. Gabriel and Wayne Elementary Schools. All 14 schools attended the Ag Day farm tours April 10 or April 11 hosted by Ross Bishop, Charlie Jones and George Muth.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- 2** President's Corner
- YFA Spring Fling
- Membership Goal Met
- FFA Farm Forum
- Tractor Safety
- Clean Sweep - Slinger

- 3** Breakfast on the Farm
- Fair Food Stand
- Service Center Uplift
- Photos for Calendar
- Pop Tab Challenge



A few quotes from the kids:

- "I liked Farmer Charlie's jokes and seeing the cow licking Farmer Ross's face." Jack
- "I liked when you guys let us touch or smell the cool items you brought." Kyle
- "I liked how they showed us how they milk cows." Julia
- "I loved how Farmer Charlie said that a cow ran away and was on the porch and mooed! It was funny." Victoria

President's Corner

I hope everyone survived the cold weather we had this winter with minimal problems, and you are looking forward to some warm weather as much as I am.

Washington County Farm Bureau (WCFB) has been very busy with many events and I would like to thank you for your participation and help.

Eleven WCFB members attended Ag Day at the Capitol for legislative briefings and capitol visits on January 29. The day began at the Monona Terrace Convention Center where we were briefed on current legislation issues and addressed by Governor Walker. The major topics that we were briefed on included implements of husbandry, groundwater, raw milk, use value assessment of farmland and



Members of Ozaukee and Washington County Farm Bureaus attended Ag Day and spoke to legislators at the Capitol.

an issue that is affecting you and call your legislators. Inform them how important agriculture is in Washington 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. Be heard and raise your voice for agriculture!

animal welfare. Members then went to the Capitol where they met with legislators and had a productive discussion about a wide variety of issues.

Whether or not you attended Ag Day at the Capitol, it is important for all of us to raise our voice on issues. Take a few minutes to be familiar with

Washington County Farm Bureau also sponsored, along with Ozaukee and Sheboygan Counties, an estate planning and farm succession workshop. The workshop was held at the Fillmore Turner Hall on April 1 and more than 65 people attended. The presenters talked about many issues including how to be fair to your children in passing the business to your business heir(s), providing a fair inheritance to your non-active children, preparing for retirement and long-term care, and how to work with professional advisors. The workshop was very educational and I would like to thank those who attended.

You can be proud to be a member of WCFB. We have a lot to offer and I would like to thank you for being a Farm Bureau member! I look forward to seeing you at the Washington County Fair, July 22-27.

George Muth
Washington County Farm Bureau President

7th Annual YFA Spring Fling

The 7th annual District 1 YFA Spring Fling was held on Saturday, March 29 at The Columbian in West Bend. The Mantz Brothers had an outstanding performance and packed the venue with more than 725 people.



Slinger Students Attend FFA Farm Forum

This was the 42nd year the Wisconsin Farm Bureau hosted the FFA Farm Forum for Wisconsin youth. Washington County Farm Bureau sponsored three students from the Slinger High School FFA Chapter: Emma Gehring, Carolyn Kuzmic and Joelle Laufer. Members attended workshops that covered post-high school agricultural opportunities, legislative issues, and misconceptions about agriculture and biotechnology. The event took place February 21-22 at the Hotel Mead in Wisconsin Rapids.



Members of the Slinger FFA included (from left): Emma Gehring, Carolyn Kuzmic and Joelle Laufer.

Tractor Safety Classes Held

The last day of Tractor Safety in Washington County was Saturday, March 15. Twenty-three students from Washington and Ozaukee counties were tested both on written and actual driving. Farm Bureau members involved in the classes and testing were Ron Rewerts, Bill Hinckley, Rick Wagenknecht, John Sckadal and Herb Lofy. Also helping in the testing were Danny Taylor, Kevin Eickstedt, Adam Jahn and Jason Loduha. All 23 students completed 40 education hours learning all safety aspects on the farm.



Hazardous Waste Clean Sweep - Slinger

Washington County is hosting their annual Clean Sweep on **Saturday, May 10**. For more information on the event, please visit the Washington County Land Conservation web page at www.co.washington.wi.us/cleansweep.



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First in State to Reach Membership Goal

Our goal was to reach 30 new voting members by April 30... and we did! By achieving this goal our county will receive \$1,000 from WFBF.

The state incentive program offers \$20 for every voting or associate member signed between October 1, 2013 and September 30, 2014. Also, any member signing five or more new members will be invited to the Producers Club Luncheon at the WFBF Annual Meeting in December.



Our county incentive program consists of \$20 for every new member signed. Those who sign five or more will also enjoy a complimentary one-night stay with a guest Saturday night, including meals and entertainment, at the WFBF Annual Meeting. Those

signing 10 or more members will enjoy a complimentary two-night stay along with meals and entertainment. The county incentives go through September 30, 2014.

Riverback Farms Welcomes You to June Dairy Breakfast

Breakfast on the Farm will be held at Riverback Farms owned by Bob, Jane, Brittany and John Falk. The Falks own and rent around 1,300 acres which they use to grow feed for their 425 dairy cows and 400 young stock. The farm was purchased in 1965 by Alfred and Barbara Falk. It grew to 200 cows and in 2005 it was purchased by Bob and Jane; they expanded it to the current 425 dairy cows.

Date: Saturday, June 14

Time: Breakfast served from 6:30-11:30 a.m.

Location: Riverback Farms, 619 Highway M
West Bend, WI 53090

Menu: All you can eat pancakes, eggs with ham, applesauce, cheese, milk and coffee.
Sundaes and root beer floats for \$1.

Tickets: Advanced: \$6 (no refunds). At the door: \$7.
Children under 3: FREE



Breakfast served rain or shine. Music provided by Goodtime Dutchman, wagon ride to the farm, barn tours, petting zoo, pedal tractor pull, live music, antique tractors and a vendor educational area.

Our Fair Food Stand Needs You

The Washington County Fair runs Tuesday, July 22 through Sunday, July 27. Our food stand is our number one fundraiser and enables us to be very active in our county with the Ag in the Classroom programs, scholarships, 4-H and FFA functions. These funds also enable us to send delegates to the WFBF Annual Meeting and YFA members to the YFA Conference in early December.

Please make the call, volunteer and ask a friend to join you. All volunteers receive a free pass into the fair. Upon putting in your three to four hour shift, you can enjoy a free meal from the food stand. Furthermore, you will be invited to our worker appreciation dinner and county annual meeting October 7.

Last year was our first fair with the new cream puff machine. It worked very well and we had more volunteers wanting to make cream puffs. It has proven to be more cost efficient and was well worth the investment.

If you would like to volunteer to work at the fair, call Mariann Gundrum at 262.483.5114 and sign up for your preferred shifts. (See below)

We can't wait to see you at the Washington County Fair!

Tuesday, July 22

4:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.
8:00 p.m. - Cleanup

Friday, July 25

9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
1:30 p.m.-5:00 p.m.
4:45 p.m.-8:30 p.m.
8:00 p.m.-Cleanup

Wednesday, July 23

9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
1:30 p.m.-5:00 p.m.
4:45 p.m.-8:30 p.m.
8:00 p.m.-Cleanup

Saturday, July 26

9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
1:30 p.m.-5:00 p.m.
4:45 p.m.-8:30 p.m.
8:00 p.m.-Cleanup

Thursday, July 24

9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
1:30 p.m.-5:00 p.m.
4:45 p.m.-8:30 p.m.
8:00 p.m.-Cleanup

Sunday, July 27

9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
1:30 p.m.-5:00 p.m.
4:45 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
Cleanup crew needed at 6:30 p.m.

Service Center Basement Uplift

During the week of February 16 the basement of the Service Center was cleaned and redone in the area rented for church services. Bill Hinckley, Ross Bishop, Stephanie Egner and Marcy Bishop helped at different times with the following tasks during the week: moved the church furniture into a rented enclosed trailer, removed ceiling tiles to expose duct work, cleaned all tile grid work, washed paneling and painted the walls.



Bill Hinckley and Ross Bishop worked hard cleaning the basement.

Schneiss Heating and Air Conditioning came in Tuesday to redo heating ducts and close up holes where air was leaking.

A new thermostat was also installed at that time. On Wednesday Kluever Window and Doors installed all new ceiling tiles and the Buildings Committee painted the walls. Kettle Moraine Professional Cleaners followed up on Thursday with four coats of wax to the floor. Friday night the Buildings Committee put large items back into place and a "thank you" fish fry was in order. Once the weekend came the church was able to move all of their furnishings back where they belonged. The total cost of the project came in at just over \$3,000.

THANK YOU from Father Gregory

"On behalf of St. Herman of Alaska members and friends, we want to thank you not only for the work you did to beautify our Church but the help in moving many items that Sunday and renting a trailer for our use. I was amazed with what you were able to accomplish. You have always been welcoming to us and we have felt very much at home; yet you were able to make our worship home even more beautiful."

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RMIC District Manager, Bill Kriese 920.893.1811

Photos Needed For 2014-15 Calendar

Last year a 2013-2014 school calendar was handed to the Women's committee by an educator in Illinois. McHenry County Farm Bureau had created a free calendar for all teachers at the beginning of the school year highlighting local agriculture and opening their eyes to a whole new world!

What a great way to showcase Washington County farmers! We're looking for you to send in no more than two photos of your favorite farming activities. We need to fill the months of September-June (school year) with our top picks. Let's help our educators understand where their food really comes from.

Email Stephanie Egner – wifarmgirlatheart@gmail.com by June 1. Include your name and township please.

"Our Food Link" Project – Pop Tabs to the Fair

"Our Food Link" is a new year-round program that county Farm Bureaus will use to reach consumers with accurate information about agriculture. "Our Food Link" replaces "Food Check-Out Week" which marked the week in which many families have earned enough income to buy their groceries for the year. "There are many ideas flowing already within this program and the WFBF Women's Committee is excited to lead the way," Deb Raemisch said. "Many county leaders have already set up events such as educational supermarket booths and Ronald McDonald House charity events." This year WFBF Women's programs are taking the challenge and collecting pop tops, with all proceeds going to the Ronald McDonald House program.



The Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) Eastern Wisconsin provides a "home away from home" for families whose lives have been disrupted as a result of their child's illness or injury.

Pop Tab Revenue History

2013 – \$29,250 2010 – \$26,171
2012 – \$26,200 2009 – \$14,845
2011 – \$24,506 2008 – \$21,086

Start saving your pop tabs and bring them to our Farm Bureau food stand July 22-27.