

Waukesha County Farm Bureau

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Linda Schopen, District Manager - (262) 522-8620

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

Women's Committee District Event



Each year the women's committee plans a spring and fall workshop. This year Waukesha and Walworth counties planned the district event together.

On August 12, four women from Waukesha County attended the workshop. The first stop was at a 400-dairy goat farm. It was a very interesting stop. The second stop of the day was to a beautiful rose garden with about 300 roses. The last visit of the day was at a winery where we had a salad luncheon and a tour of the winery.

We were happy for the beautiful day as women from District 1 joined in Walworth County for a great workshop.

The committee also helped at the Family Farm Weekend event at the Milwaukee Zoo on September 10-11. The committee is looking for additional volunteers to help next year, the shifts are two-hours long and you teach attendees about agriculture through interactive games.

Mark your calendar:

Next year's Family Farm Weekend at the Milwaukee Zoo is **September 9-10**. We hope that you can help, it's important that we spread the good word about agriculture.



During the October annual meeting, the voting members approved to change the name of the women's committee to promotion and education committee. If you are interested in becoming more involved, please contact Judy Porter.

Pop the Top! Saving pop tabs is easy and clean.

They're compact, with a concentration of recyclable aluminum. Unlike empty cans, they don't need to be rinsed. All the pop tabs that we collect go to the Ronald McDonald House. Revenue from recycling these little bits of aluminum helps provide a 'home away from home' for families whose seriously ill children are undergoing treatment in the Milwaukee area.

Keep saving those tabs and turn them in to Judy Porter. Sometime next spring, the promotion and education committee will go to the Ronald McDonald House to serve a meal. If you want to go or if you want to be more involved with the promotion and education committee, please contact Judy Porter at 262.363.7397.

Waukesha County Achieves Gain in Membership

The membership year-end was September 30 and Waukesha County achieved a gain in voting and total membership.



Achieving the goal was possible because of the dedicated membership volunteers who signed new members throughout the year. Thank you to those who signed new members including: Rob Schuett, Lloyd Williams, Scott Porter, Alan Runyard, Bob Bartholomew, Bob Stigler, Ron Williams, Ryan Brueggemann and Tom Oberhaus.

Ag Leaders Selected for Farm Bureau Institute

Sean Beres is among 15 other agricultural leaders that have been selected to participate in the WFBF Institute. The year-long leadership training program's mission is to develop strong and effective agricultural leaders.

The WFBF Institute consists of five multi-day sessions that provide hands-on learning on issues important to agriculture, development of leadership and speaking skills, interaction with Farm Bureau and governmental leaders and staff at the state and national levels and networking with other participants.

The first session starts in January and focuses on public speaking, etiquette, emotional intelligence and personality types. Subsequent sessions focus on media and advocacy training, running effective meetings, the structure and function of Farm Bureau, being a creative leader, the workings of local and state government and future national and international ag issues.

The class capstone event is a trip with the WFBF Board of Directors to Washington, D.C., in April of 2018. Stay tuned as we follow Sean's journey through the WFBF Institute.



COUNTYnews

WAUKESHA COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION

Waukesha County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting Celebrates Success

Congratulations on another successful Farm Bureau year. The Waukesha County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting was on October 6 at the Machine Shed in Pewaukee.

The voting members approved policies and a bylaw change. The policy development committee brought forward resolutions, which recognize Waukesha County's position on national, state and local issues. All of the resolutions passed and will be forwarded to the state Policy Development Committee for consideration. In addition, the voting members approved a bylaw change to change the name of the women's committee to promotion and education committee following a change at the state level in December 2015.

Each year the Waukesha County board of directors and the delegates to the WFBF Annual Meeting are elected at the annual meeting. Those elected to the board of directors from the southern tier include: Dave Bartholomew, Bob Bartholomew, Ryan Brueggemann, Kevin McCarthy, Scott Porter, Rob Schuett, Bob Stigler and Ron Williams.

The promotion and education committee chair is Judy Porter and the YFA chair is Sam and Nicole Dempsey. The delegates to the WFBF Annual Meeting are Ryan Brueggemann, Dave Morris, Tom Oberhaus and Lloyd Williams. The WFBF Annual Meeting will be December 3-5 at the Kalahari Resorts in Wisconsin Dells.

Guest speaker, DATCP Deputy Secretary Jeff Lyon, spoke about DATCP programs and how Farm Bureau and DATCP work together on many issues and topics.

Following the board meeting a reorganizational meeting was held to elect officers. The officers are as follows:

- Lloyd Williams, President
- Tom Oberhaus, Vice President
- John Meissner, Secretary
- Dave Bartholomew, Treasurer

Thank you to all the members who attended the annual meeting.

Waukesha County Members Advance Ag in the Classroom Essay Contest Announced

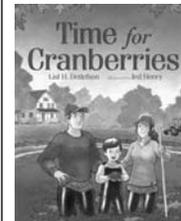


The District 1 YFA Discussion Meet contest was on August 24 at Jelli's Market in Helenville.

We had five very qualified contestants who participated in the discussion meet. This year's district topic was: **'Today's food companies employ many tactics to gain a marketing edge. What is the purpose of food labels? How can Farm Bureau work to ensure that consumers understand the labels and have confidence in the safety and quality of their food.'**

The contestants were: (L-R) Scott Davel, Racine County; Sean Beres, Waukesha County; Jeff Debele, Waukesha County; Kallie Jo Kastenson, Racine County; and Brice Krull, Jefferson County. Three contestants were selected and will compete during the YFA Conference. The finalists are: Sean Beres, Jeff Debele and Kallie Jo Kastenson.

If you see any of the contestants, please wish them the best of luck as they move on to the state competition on December 2-4 at the YFA Conference.



Each year Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom offers an essay contest for fourth and fifth grade students in all public, private and home schools, including 4-H clubs, Farm Bureau families and other organizations. The 2016-2017 topic is 'Tell us about cranberry production in Wisconsin during one of the four seasons.'

The essay contest theme coincides with this year's book of the year *Time for Cranberries* by Lisl H. Detlefsen. This book follows a boy and his family through the process of collecting cranberries all the way to eating the delicious treat. County contest entries are due by **April 1, 2017**.

For more information, please contact Carol Bartholomew at 262.662.2782 or visit www.wisagclassroom.org.

Raise Your Voice for Agriculture

Mark your calendars for **Wednesday, March 8, 2017**, and plan to attend Ag Day at the Capitol.

It's important for us to raise our voice on issues. Take a few minutes to become familiar with an issue that is affecting you and call your legislators. Inform them how important agriculture is in Waukesha 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.

If you are interested in attending, please contact Patti Roden at 262.689.1838 or proden@wfbf.com.



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President's Report



I want to take a moment to reflect on this past year to show appreciation for the little things that make Waukesha County members Farm Bureau Proud.

Waukesha County made many donations this past year. Just to mention a few: Waukesha County Fair Ag Adventure Tent, Wisconsin State Fair, Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation Ag in the Classroom books *This Business Called Agriculture* and *Ag Careers for You*.

We're building a great passion for what we do – we farm. Farm Bureau provides us with a road map to guide us with farm issues in agriculture. We have challenging days ahead

with low milk prices and commodity prices. Many of us have experienced this before but we have weathered the storm.

I want to thank those of you who helped achieve our total membership gain. If anyone has neighbors or friends that want to join Waukesha County Farm Bureau, please contact any Farm Bureau board member.

Waukesha County has a great Young Farmer and Agriculturist program. Some of the highlights of this past year included the YFA Hayride, the Go-Cart Outing and the Young Farmers Conference was well attended.

We were honored this past year to award three \$1,000 scholarships to students that pursue a higher education with a focus on agriculture after high school. They were granted to Virginia Kuenzi, Derek Nelson and Heidi Tremaine. We encourage

students to apply. Applications can be found at wfbf.com/countyfarmbureaus/waukesha.

We also provide a program called Ag in the Classroom. We have farmers that go into fourth grade classrooms in Waukesha County to discuss farming practices. Last year we attended more than 30 classrooms. If you want us to attend a school near you, please contact us.

I also want to give a special thank you to Rural Mutual Insurance and Farm Bureau members for supporting this grassroots organization. Have a safe and successful harvest and a blessed holiday season.

God bless,
Lloyd Williams
Waukesha County Farm Bureau President

Resolutions Approved at Waukesha County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting

Waukesha County Farm Bureau voting members were presented the following policies at the county annual meeting. Each of these policies were voted on and passed; now the resolutions will be presented to the Policy Development Committee for potential consideration at the state delegate floor.

Internal Resolution

1. The Farm Bureau State Board of Directors should not endorse a candidate running for political office until each candidate is offered an equal opportunity to be interviewed.
2. We urge the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation to become an active member of the U.S. Grain Council.

County Government

3. We support development of the Agriculture Enterprise Area in any area of the county which property owners desire to do so.
4. We support the county and state to maintain the cooperative nature of our extension service. We oppose the dilution of county extension service away from production agriculture.
5. We support the concentrated effort of county government to control their expenses, rather than using county sales tax, impact fees and other added taxes.
6. We support composting programs and recycling programs when cost effective in order to preserve our natural resources.
7. We support the Waukesha County Fair Board. We urge the continued participation of the Waukesha County Extension Service in the County Fair. We also support the youth organizations and volunteers, such as 4-H and other groups that contribute to the success of the Waukesha County Fair.
8. We encourage the financial support of Waukesha County, including the Waukesha County government, in the assistance of youth organization (i.e., 4-H, FFA and Waukesha County Fair) that helps our youth develop into future outstanding citizens.
9. We support representation of the agriculture community on Waukesha County Land Use and Agriculture related committees. We also support just representation of the agriculture community on regional and multi-county committees.
10. We reaffirm our belief in the rights of private property ownership, and in the ability of the landowners to make prudent land use decisions. We would oppose rules and regulations that deprive landowners of their property rights without just compensation.
11. We urge the Waukesha County Board to maintain a drainage board to address the agriculture drainage problems and find solutions. We also promote a process in obtaining a permit for drainage purposes to be handled in a prompt and efficient manner.

12. Because water drainage systems (i.e., tiles, waterways, ditches, creeks and etc.) are critical to agricultural operations, we believe that any party allowing or causing deterioration of such drainage systems that affects other agriculture lands should be held liable for the correction of that drainage system based on a agriculture study. We also support stricter regulations with better engineering and enforcement of runoff from subdivisions and commercial development on to agriculture lands.
13. We support the 'Right to Farm Law' with continued efforts that will protect agricultural operations from nuisance suits resulting from odor, dust, noise, etc., when farming enterprises are operated in accordance with best management practices.
14. We extend a thank you to County Executive Paul Farrow and the Waukesha County Board for their support of agriculture and their continued support for the Waukesha County Fair.
15. Farmland should receive credits for permeable surfaces when calculating storm water management system assessments.
16. We support the inclusion of an appeal process in all storm water management decisions made by municipalities.
17. We support keeping the Waukesha County FSA Office open.

State Government

18. We support the county and state to maintain the cooperative nature of our extension service. We oppose the dilution of county extension service away from production agriculture.
19. We support the concentrated effort of state government to control their expenses.
20. We support the discontinuation of the current Producer Security Program, unless a usable program can be developed with yearly administrative costs at less than 5% of the total potential payoff sum.
21. Farmland should receive credits for permeable surfaces when calculating storm water management system assessments.
22. The veterinarian-client-patient-relationship (VCRP) should override any broad governing rules on appropriate animal husbandry practices on their farm.
23. We support installation of cost effective rural broadband. We support expanded cellular and broadband telecommunications coverage for rural areas.
24. We feel property owners should maintain 100% of their fence unless the fence is shared on both sides by livestock then it should be split 50/50.

Natural Resources and Environment

25. Many counties have very good regulations for water runoff and water quality. We support legislation that would require incorporated municipalities to abide by these regulations as do the unincorporated areas.
26. We support greater efforts to advance new technologies with the use of EQUIP (Environmental Quality Incentive Program) and CREP (Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program) funds to better utilize animal generated nutrients.
27. We support the agricultural chemical cleanup program with enough funds to support the program. When funds in the program exceed the need, collected funds should be protected from reallocation and additional fees should be suspended.

Dairy

28. We support a dairy producer's right to offer sales of raw milk directly to the consumer if it is state regulated.

Federal

29. We support improving milk quality by lowering the somatic cell count limit to 400,000.

Summit 2017
Save the Date!
March 10-11, 2017
Madison Marriott West, Middleton

WISCONSIN
Ag Women's
SUMMIT

#WAWS17
WiAgWomensSummit.com

New District YFA Chairs Appointed throughout the State



Charlie Oberhaus of Waukesha County, Julie Wadzinski of Barron County and Tammy Wiedenbeck of Grant County were appointed to the WFBF's Young Farmer and Agriculturist (YFA) Committee by the Board of Directors. Their terms start at the WFBF Annual Meeting and Young Farmer and Agriculturist Conference on December 2-5 in Wisconsin Dells.

"These individuals are among the best and brightest young leaders in Wisconsin agriculture and will make great additions to the YFA Committee," said Wisconsin Farm Bureau President Jim Holte.

Charlie Oberhaus works on Cozy Nook Farm, a dairy farm near Waukesha managed by his parents Tom and Joan Oberhaus. Charlie is a graduate of UW-Madison Farm and Industry Short Course. After high school Charlie formed Cozy Nook Trucking LLC, a one-truck business that he operates full-time

along with working at the home farm. He is a member of the Waukesha County Farm Bureau.

Julie Wadzinski is a farm and production management instructor at Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College where she works with farmers to get the latest technology and methods for improving farm longevity. She is a graduate of UW-River Falls and a Barron County Farm Bureau member. In her free time, she likes to read, take videos and pictures of her son, ride bike and seek adventure.

Tammy Wiedenbeck is a field representative for Equity Livestock Sales Cooperative. She assists farmers in southwest Wisconsin and northeast Iowa with livestock marketing. Tammy owns 20 shorthorn and angus beef cows. She is a member of the Grant County Farm Bureau, secretary of the Grant County Cattleman's Association, board member of the Lancaster FFA Alumni and lifetime member of UW-Platteville alumni.

The WFBF YFA Committee consists of nine couples or individuals (ages 18-35) from across the state. Its goal is to get more young farmers and agriculturists acquainted involved in Farm Bureau. They carry out statewide initiatives, such as conferences, contests and award programs. The YFA Program is funded by the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation.

For more information, please contact 800.261.3276 or visit www.wfbf.com.

Grain Bin Rescue Training

On July 25-27, the City of Waukesha Fire Department's Special Services Team participated in Grain Bin Rescue Training. The training focused on rescuing persons trapped in a grain silo or any other engulfment situation.

With a grant from Waukesha Walmart, the 'Great Wall Rescue Kit' was purchased to facilitate these types of rescues. The City of Waukesha Fire Department Special Services Team is available to respond throughout Waukesha County. Please contact 9-1-1 to have your local fire department make a request for a Special Services Team response.

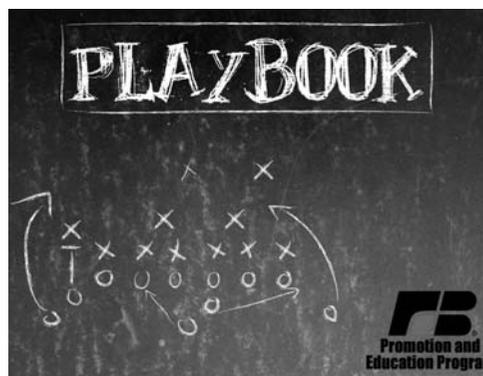


Promotion and Education Committee 'Playbook' Available Online

The WFBF Promotion and Education Committee has been busy collecting plays that happen at the local level. They compiled the plays and put them in a 'Playbook.' The purpose of the 'Playbook' is to provide counties with ideas and resources for planning county activities and events. Throughout the 'Playbook,' you will find activities and events for all ages, time frames and budgets.

Updates to the 'Playbook' will be made quarterly. If you have events to include in the next update, please submit a play submission sheet by **December 15.**

To check out the 'Playbook,' visit wfbf.com/programmevents/promotion-and-education/playbook.



Waukesha County Farm Bureau Contacts:

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Treasurer, David Bartholomew	262.366.2366
Promotion & Education Chair, Judy Porter	262.363.7397
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YFA Co-Chair, Sam Dempsey	262.470.4516

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WFBF Board Director, Dave Daniels	262.878.5035
RMIC District Manager, Linda Schopen	920.723.5108

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Meet the Dempseys



Hello Waukesha County! We are excited to have been appointed your YFA co-chairs and look forward to working with our YFA peers.

Nicole grew up on a small hobby farm in Ottawa. She was very active in 4-H through her youth. As soon as she was able, she started working on local farms and eventually ended up working for Williams Homestead Farm where she was intro-

duced to Farm Bureau.

In 2014, Nicole received the Waukesha County Farm Bureau Scholarship and continued her Farm Bureau involvement at UW-Platteville where she earned a bachelor's degree in animal science with an emphasis in dairy and agribusiness.

Sam grew up on his family's dairy and crop farm in Eagle. Farming became his passion at a young age when he started milking cows and helping on the farm. Eventually Sam earned a bachelor's degree in soil and crop science from UW-Platteville.

Nicole and Sam met while attending UW-Platteville after realizing they had grown up living only six miles away from one another. Nicole introduced Sam to the Farm Bureau circle, and together they have attended the past three YFA Conferences.

Nicole works at Topcon Ag (Digi-Star) in Fort Atkinson and Sam works full time on his family's farm.