

Waushara County Farm Bureau

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For information about our farm safety campaign, contact your local Rural Mutual agent.

Rural Mutual Agents in Waushara County:

Jon Berger
(920) 787-4664

Chuck Reitz III -
District Manager

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

District 5 Members Graduate from Farm Bureau Institute

District 5 members Danielle Clark (top right, pictured with Jim Holte) – Fond du Lac County, Lynn Dickman (middle right, pictured with Kevin Krentz) – Waushara County and Alena Graff (bottom right, pictured with Jim Holte) – Green Lake County graduated from the WFBF leadership Institute program at the WFBF Annual Meeting.

The Farm Bureau Institute is a year-long premiere leadership training course at a graduate level whose mission is to produce strong and effective county Farm Bureau leaders. The training focuses on personal growth and development, public speaking, working effectively with all forms of media, creativity training, understanding the role and functions of WFBF and Rural Mutual Insurance Company, training on working with government at the local, state and national levels, working to bridge the generational divide among volunteers, consideration of current national and international agricultural issues and completion of a Farm Bureau Personal Development Leadership Plan.

For more information on the WFBF Leadership Institute program, check out our website at: wfbf.com/programsevents/leadership-training-institute.



District 5 YFA Members Top Discussion Meet Contests



Fond du Lac County YFA member Nate Zimdars of Ripon won the Wisconsin Collegiate Discussion Meet.



Ethan Giebel of Juneau County won the Wisconsin YFA Discussion Meet.

District 5 includes the counties of: Adams, Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Juneau, Marquette, Waushara and Winnebago.

In Remembrance

The Waushara County Farm Bureau board of directors would like to honor the memory of Jim Bleskey.

Jim passed away on November 21, 2014. He was a long time Waushara County Farm Bureau board of director who will be greatly missed.





COUNTYnews

WAUSHARA COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION

Waushara County Members Attend WFBF Annual Meeting

Members of the Waushara County Farm Bureau attended the WFBF Annual Meeting and YFA Conference held December 5-8 at the Kalahari Resort in Wisconsin Dells.



Waushara County YFA members (front L to R) Kyle Thom, Peter Jarvis, (back L to R) Amy Blake and Phil Putskey attended the YFA Conference.



District 5 YFA Committee Representative Amanda Knoch addressed YFA attendees at the district meeting during the YFA conference.



District 5 Director Kevin Krentz addressed attendees at the district caucus meeting.



Waushara County delegates Jim Jarvis (left) and Rob Walejko attended the District 5 caucus at the WFBF Annual Meeting.



(Left) District 5 YFA members topped the Discussion Meet contests. (L to R) Chris Pollack (2014 AFBF Discussion Meet finalist), Ethan Giebel (2014 WFBF Discussion Meet winner from Juneau County) and Nate Zimdars (2014 Collegiate Discussion Meet winner).

Farm Bureau Women Give One Million Pop Tabs to the Ronald McDonald House

The nine-member Wisconsin Farm Bureau Women's Committee hosted a contest this year to collect pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House Charities.

The competition that was held between the nine Farm Bureau districts was created to help collect pop tabs to be donated to three Wisconsin Ronald McDonald houses. The money made from the pop tab donations is used to help families pay the suggested donation of \$10 to stay there.

Members from across the state brought their pop tabs to the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Annual Meeting held December 6-8 and generated a whopping total of 734 pounds of pop tabs,



District 5 Women's Committee member Michelle Bula of Adams County stood with the pop tabs collected.

equivalent to one million tabs. The donation of pop tabs equaled more than \$300 or 30 one-night stays for families of the Ronald McDonald Houses.

The district that generated the most pop tabs was District 5 (Adams, Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Juneau, Marquette, Waushara and Winnebago county Farm Bureaus). They contributed 306 pounds of the 734. Special thank you to Sadoff Metal and Iron Company for donating 135 pounds of pop tabs!

The Women's Committee plans to host the competition again this coming year and encourages everyone to save their pop tabs. If you would like to contribute or have any questions contact Deb Raemisch at 608.828.5712.



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District Director's Report



Recently I was asked about my experience on the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Board. It has been time-consuming and challenging at times but it is a true honor to serve agriculture in this manner. My main objective in this position is not only to advocate for agriculture but to raise the success in District 5.

This past year we spent countless hours on the strategic plan. One of the main goals of this plan is to continue to build the bridge of communication between members and staff. WFBF has many resources for us as members and the greatest resource is the staff. The strategic

plan lays out potential new ways of bringing information to members. My goal is to continue to hold leadership sessions within the district in order to give members the opportunity to interact with many of WFBF's staff.

I also believe in putting the right people in the right place. Throughout the year I have asked our nominated members to be a part of many aspects of this organization. These include the strategic plan, congressional forum, leadership trips to Washington, D.C. and committees and workgroups of the Farm Bureau. Recently a few select members met with Congressman Elect Grothman to discuss pressing issues moving into a new year.

I want to thank everyone who is active in this organization. Being active has been instrumental in such things as new legis-

lation that allow higher axle weights for implements of husbandry and maintaining higher weights on 41 as it becomes an interstate, along with many other regulations that affect us as farmers.

I believe the success of Farm Bureau comes from its members. We have an opportunity in Wisconsin Farm Bureau because we have one of the premier leadership training programs in the country. I will continue to do my part to help each county grow its leadership potential and strive in their unique ways. It is a true honor continuing to serve agriculture and Farm Bureau!

Kevin Krentz
WFBF District 5 Board Director

Jarvis, Walejko, Thom Serve as Waushara County Delegates to WFBF Annual Meeting

Delegates at the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation's 95th Annual Meeting in Wisconsin Dells established new policy directives for the organization on Monday, December 8.



Waushara County delegates attended the District 5 caucus at the WFBF Annual Meeting.

Farm Bureau delegates adopted the policies that will guide the legislative agenda for the state's largest general farm organization over the next year. Resolutions were submitted by farmers from across the state through Farm Bureau's grassroots policy development process.

To address a shortage of agricultural agents in the University of Wisconsin-Extension system, delegates suggested that ag agents should not be required to have a Master's degree and should be encouraged to work across county lines. Furthermore, the UW-Extension system was asked to establish regions in which specialized ag agents are assigned.

In regards to laws pertaining to high capacity wells, delegates opposed defining multiple small wells on contiguous land as a high capacity well. They also supported grandfathering in existing high capacity wells under the laws in which they were installed or upgraded including:

- Renewal of existing well permits and transfers with the sale of the land.
- Reconstruction or repair of an existing well, and the ability to replace a well if there is nominal movement from the original well location.

Delegates went on record supporting the use of unmanned aircraft systems (drones) for commercial and agricultural purposes. However, they want drone operators to be required to gain consent of the land operator before flying over it. Any information collected should be the sole property of the farmer-land owner and only be used by others with signed consent of the farmer-land owner.

- Delegates from the Wisconsin Farm Bureau's 61 county Farm Bureaus also voted to:
- Support limiting the bear population to the state's original goal and support combining the authorization to trap and hunt bear on a renter's property on one form.
 - Support under-documented workers being able to obtain a provisional driver's license with the completion of an instructional course.
 - Oppose mandating labeling of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) products or ingredients in Wisconsin.
 - Oppose any municipality or county having the ability to levy a special assessment on agricultural property for constructing any public work or improvement.
 - Support development of technical standards for the irrigation of manure and processed waste water.
 - Support the concept of credit trading and adaptive management between municipalities and the agricultural community to reduce phosphorus discharge into surface waters.

UW-Extension Update By Ken Williams, Waushara County UW-Extension Agent

The 2014 Farm Bill which was passed last February has proven to be a rather complicated program. In Wisconsin the commodity crops covered include corn, soybeans, wheat and oats. Crops not covered in the program include alfalfa, potatoes, cranberries and other specialty crops. Most potato and vegetable growers have base acres from other farms which would make them eligible for program coverage.

The 2014 Farm Bill established three programs to replace Direct Payments, Counter Cyclical Payments and ACRE Payments. These three programs are Price Loss Coverage (PLC) and Agricultural Risk Coverage County (ARC-CO) and Agricultural Risk Coverage Individual (ARC-IN).

UW-Extension will be holding local meetings to provide additional information and suggestions concerning these programs. At this time these meetings will be held in the later part of January and will probably be held at UW-Extension offices in Green Lake, Marquette, Waushara and Adams Counties. Important dates to remember are February 27 as the deadline for a landowner to update farm yields and base acres, March 31 to sign up for either the ARC or the PLC program (March 15 for PLC if you desire to sign up for the Supplemental Coverage Option, SCO).



SATURDAY, JANUARY 31, 2015

7:30 P.M.  **BRIGHTON ACRES**
4057 Fisk Avenue • Oshkosh



TICKETS:

For ticket information contact
Charlie Knigge 920.379.3934.

LODGING ARRANGEMENTS:

 For lodging information call the
Cobblestone Suites
at 920.230.7400.

FEATURED BAND:



Farm Bureau Bus Trip



Join other Farm Bureau members from the district for a bus tour to Northcentral Technical School farm near Wausau and Mullins Cheese in Mosinee.

When: Friday March 6

8 am: Leave Green Lake Court House parking lot (571 County A Green Lake)
10:30 a.m.: Tour Technical School Farm
Noon: Lunch
1 p.m.: Tour Mullins Cheese
4 p.m.: Arrive back in Green Lake

Cost: \$25 per person

RSVP by **March 1** to District 5 Coordinator Becky Hibicki at bhibicki@wbf.com or 920.517.2445.

Tour Description:

Northcentral Technical College:

The Agriculture Center of Excellence is located just north of Wausau and the NTC campus on County Road K in the Town of Maine. Thanks to a unique collaboration of partners in the agriculture industry, government and education, the Agriculture Center of



Excellence provides the knowledge and skills needed to excel in the management of the herd, nutrition, crops, equipment, buildings and business

Mullins Cheese is the largest family-owned and operated cheese factory in Wisconsin. As the family has grown, so has the operation.

In addition to the original Knowlton facility, there is a second facility in the Marshfield area. Both plants are continually updated with the latest technology to make them more efficient. They supply premium quality cheese to customers throughout the U.S. In 2001, Mullins Cheese expanded its operation to include a whey processing facility to produce whey protein isolate powder in addition to other by-products. Through the use of ultra-filtration and microfiltration processes, whey protein can be concentrated from cheese whey to greater than 90% protein. With its high biological value, ease of digestion, and immune-boosting capabilities, whey protein isolate powder is an excellent source of protein for nutrition. Mullins Whey products are sold worldwide for use in nutritional supplements, sports drinks and food products.



Plan to Attend the 2015 WPS Farm Show - March 24-26

The Waushara County Farm Bureau is teaming up with Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Winnebago and Outagamie County Farm Bureaus to sponsor a booth at the WPS Farm Show on March 24-26 at the EAA grounds in Oshkosh. Waushara County Farm Bureau will be working the booth on March 25 from 8 a.m. – noon. If you plan to attend the show, please plan to visit the Farm Bureau booth, which will again be located in Hanger D.



Wisconsin Public Service

Save the Date

AG DAY AT THE CAPITOL

March 11, 2015

Monona Terrace Convention Center • Madison, WI

Schedule of Events:

- 11:00 a.m. Registration
- 11:30 a.m. Opening Program
- 11:45 a.m. Lunch
- 12:45 p.m. Legislative Briefing
- 3:00 p.m. Leave for Capitol Visits

Presented by:

Thank You to Our Sponsors:

For more information on Ag Day at the Capitol contact District 5 Coordinator Becky Hibicki (866.355.2029|bhibicki@wbf.com) or visit wbf.com/programsevents/ag-day-at-the-capitol. **Early registration deadline is March 5.**

Calendar

- March 6** District 5 Bus Tour to Northcentral Technical School Farm and Mullins Cheese
- March 11** Ag Day at the Capitol
- March 13-14** Wisconsin Ag Women's Summit
- March 24-26** WPS Farm Show in Oshkosh
- April 1** Deadline for Ag in the Classroom Essay Contest
- April 1** County Scholarship Deadline

SAVE THE DATE

County Participates in Ag in the Classroom Essay Contest

The 2014-15 Ag in the Classroom Essay Contest is for fourth and fifth grade students. Entries must be posted marked by April 1. This year's topic is "Why are bees important to Wisconsin agriculture?" The 2015 Book of the year is "The Beeman" by Laurie Krebs. The Agriculture in the Classroom essay contest is sponsored by Frontier-Servco FS, We Energies and the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation.



Any essays from Waushara County can be sent to: **Bonnie Jarvis, W5643 Buttercup Avenue, Wautoma, WI 54982.**

Waushara County Farm Bureau Contacts:

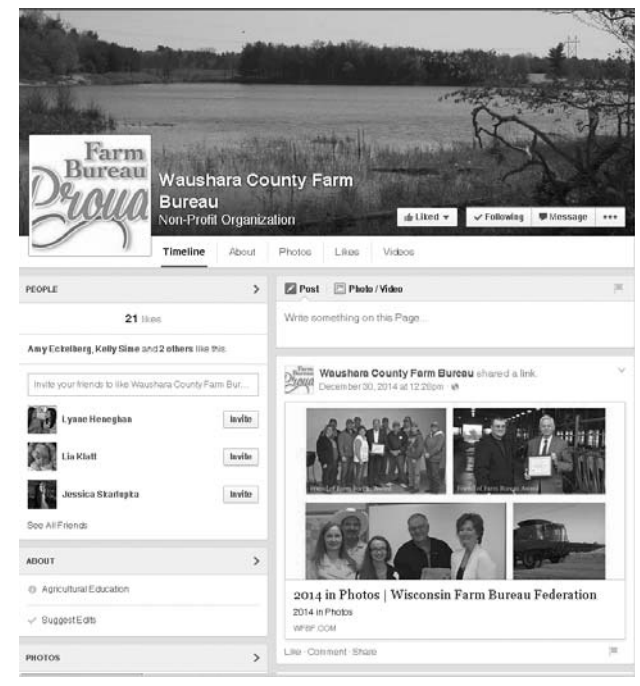
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Waushara County Farm Bureau is Now on Facebook!

Make sure to "like" the Waushara County Farm Bureau Facebook page to keep up on all the Farm Bureau events!



Scholarship Available

The Waushara County Farm Bureau is offering the Gordon Krentz Memorial Scholarship to a graduating high school senior. The application deadline is April 1, 2015. Contact District 5 Coordinator Becky Hibicki at bhibicki@wbf.com or 920.517.2445 to request a copy.

