



NEWS RELEASE & EVENT INFO.

Contact: Marcia Fenner, Sheboygan County Farm Bureau
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Where: Hanke Farms (2011 Master Agriculturists)
Jack and Dorene Hanke and Jim and Bonnie Hanke Families
N6368 Willow Road, Sheboygan Falls
Take Hwy 23 to Willow Rd. (By Car Dealership). Go approx. 2 miles North on Willow Rd. to third farm driveway

When: Thursday, April 28 and Friday, April 29
A groups 9:15 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. and B groups 12:00 noon -2:00 p.m.

"Classroom on the Farm" hosted by 2011 Master Agriculturist Farm Family

April 5, 2011 – Master Agriculturists and Sheboygan County Farm Bureau Members, Jack and Jim Hanke, will welcome over 1,000 students from Sheboygan, Kohler, Sheboygan Falls, Cedar Grove and Random Lake School Districts to participate in the 4th annual Sheboygan County Farm Bureau's "Classroom On The Farm Field Trip" on Thursday, April 28 and Friday, April 29.

"We love to have the children visit and become a little more aware of where their food is coming from. Our family is proud to share our farming heritage while providing the students with a fresh perspective on the latest technology and how that is helping us produce the highest, quality dairy product possible – milk," said Jack Hanke of Hanke Farms.

On March 30, Jack and Jim Hanke received the prestigious Master Agriculturists award sponsored by Wisconsin Farm Progress Companies in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Master Agriculturist is one of the oldest running awards programs in the United States dating back to the 1930s. The Hanks were recognized for their commitment to successful farming practices and true dedication to faith, family and community.

Host farmers, Jim and Jack Hanke, twin brothers, are the third generation to own and operate Hanke Farms. Their grandfather began their strong farming heritage in the 1920s. Over the years, Jack and Jim and their wives Bonnie and Dorene have grown the farm to over 700 cows to create the opportunity for their children and grandchildren to join them on the farm.

The purpose of the event is to focus on providing elementary students with real world learning experiences to enhance what they learn through lessons in the classroom. The third and fourth graders will hear from the Hanke Family about their 3rd generation farm, learn about milking equipment, animal health and nutrition needs and develop an understanding of the quality of Wisconsin dairy products.

"Through the county Agriculture in the Classroom Program, sponsored by Sheboygan County Farm Bureau, we partner with teachers providing classroom materials, lesson plans

and books, however, this real, on-farm experience for the children will really bring the learning to a whole new level," said Marcia Fenner, Agriculture in the Classroom Coordinator.

The "On the Farm Classroom" will consist of nine stations located throughout the farm. Each station will be presented by a family farm member or agribusiness farm partner and will be 10 minutes in length during the two hour planned classroom fieldtrip.

STATIONS

1. Udderly Great Milking Parlor
2. A Cow Eats What?
3. Cows Need Doctors too
4. Day in the Life of a Cow
5. The Role of Farm Machinery
6. The Farmer's Goal
7. I'm a Baby-Calf
8. Let's All Milk a Cow
9. Taste Wisconsin

Agriculture in the Classroom is a program that supports teachers in helping students K-12 understand the importance of agriculture. The program is coordinated by the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation, Sheboygan County Farm Bureau and Wisconsin Agribusiness Council. Learn more at www.wisagclassroom.org

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