



Winnebago County Farm Bureau

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FROM THE **# 1 FARM INSURER**
IN WISCONSIN, WE WOULD LIKE TO SAY
THANK YOU
FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND LOYALTY!



Rural Mutual Agent in Winnebago Co:

Andrew Ballard (920) 233-4802	Ella Tokarski (715) 252-7424	Jon Berger (920) 230-6886
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Chuck McDaniel, *District Manager* - (920) 572-9122

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

Kasten's Waukau Creek Dairy to Host June Dairy Breakfast

Winnebago County Breakfast on the Farm, June 9

The Winnebago County Dairy Breakfast will be held at Waukau Creek Farm on **Saturday, June 9**. Breakfast prices are \$7 for adults, \$3 for kids ages 4 to 11 and kids three and young, eat for free. Breakfast will be served from 8 a.m. to noon. The breakfast menu is Wisconsin Egg Omelette, sausage from Beck's Meat Processing, pancakes, an assortment of Wisconsin cheeses, milk, coffee and ice cream.

Directions: 328 Senn Road. Travel southwest of Omro on Highway 116 approximately two miles, and then continue straight on County Road E. Turn left on Senn Road. For information, visit www.facebook.com/WinnebagoCountyDBOTF. If you want to volunteer at the dairy breakfast or during setup, please contact Rob Stone at stonefamily52@yahoo.com.

Host Family Farm History: In 1964, Fred and Jane Kasten began their farming career on a dairy farm near Butte des Morts on a rented farm with 38 dairy cows. After three years they purchased a farm in the Waukau area with facilities for about 42 cows. They named it Waukau-Creek Dairy.

With a young family and much enthusiasm, they tackled the day-to-day tasks required to raise children and improve the 236 acres. As the years passed and animals were added the task of milking cows in a stanchion barn was becoming time consuming. In 1976, they decided to go from milking cows in a stanchion barn to a milking parlor. The parlor was a double six herringbone with swing units, meaning that while you milked cows on one side, you would get six cows ready on the other

and then 'swing' the milking units to milk those animals. This saved a lot of time allowing them to attend to the other aspects of the farm. At that time, the farm had expanded to about 65 head of milk cows. The need for more feed created the need for more land, renting a neighbor's land solved this problem.

Next was a need to store the increasing amount of feed that was being produced to feed the growing herd. The solution at that time was to construct the blue Harvestore silos that still exist on the farm. As the herd grew more silos were added. The silos on the farm can hold about six million pounds of forage and 7,000 bushels of corn. The cattle consume about 10 tons of feed each day.

In 1987, Jim returned to farm with his parents. By this time Fred and Jane were milking 120 cows and had completed several projects to give the cattle the room required to be productive. During the 1990s, more land was purchased and with several smaller building projects, the herd slowly grew to about 170 cows. With the additional land some of the excess crops were harvested and sold.

Originally, the farm had Holstein dairy cattle. In the 1970s, they began breeding for Red and White Holsteins and also added polled (hornless) genes to the herd. After experimenting with several breed crosses in the 1990s such as Norwegian Reds, Brown Swiss, and Jerseys, the decision to add Milking Shorthorns was made around 2000. This was in honor of Fred's dad who milked

these cows when he farmed. As you walk around the farm you can try to identify the different breeds represented here. The Holsteins are the black and white cows you are probably most familiar with but, they can be red and white also. The Milking Shorthorns can be a variety of colors from all red, all white and a variety of both colors including the roan colors. If you find any 'blue' cattle, they are a mix of Holstein and Milking Shorthorn.

In 2016, they began milking in a new parlor. It is a Double 12 Parallel Swing. They also updated the milking cows facility by adding new fans, replacing stall dividers and new mattresses to the stalls to make the cows more comfortable. Currently, the farm has 225 cows and about 180 head of young stock.

Fred and Jane farm are in partnership with their son Jim, his wife Stacy Freund, their granddaughter Jessica Henderson and Jim's stepson Chris Blake. The farm has two full-time employees and three high school age part-time employees. The Kasten Family hopes you will continue to support the farming community.

Neighbors feeding Neighbors, Let's do Breakfast!

Winnebago County Dairy Breakfast on the Farm

Saturday, June 9th 2018

Winnebago County Dairy Breakfast on the Farm

Kasten Dairy Farm





COUNTYnews

WINNEBAGO COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION

Thomas Wins Winnebago County Ag in the Classroom Essay Contest



Ag in the Classroom committee member Rebecca Poppy introduced the essay contest to students at Omro Elementary School.

Dylan Thomas, son of Nate and Melinda Thomas and a fourth grade student at Omro Elementary School is the Winnebago County Farm Bureau Ag in the Classroom essay winner.

Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom offers an annual essay contest for fourth and fifth grade students. Each year the topic has specific lesson plans, activities and other resources that teachers and home school parents can use to teach about Wisconsin agriculture. The 2017-18 topic was: 'Inventions that have made agriculture great'

For more information on the Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom program, visit www.wisagclassroom.org.

Dylan's award winning essay:

Three Inventions that Made Agriculture Great!

The tractor, the gasoline engine, and the GPS are three inventions that have made agriculture great. They forever changed how the farmer plants and harvests crops. Each of these advancements made a unique contribution to agriculture.

When the farm tractor was invented, it was ahead of its time. It made it possible for farmers to get planting done faster. They didn't have to spend as much time as they would have if they had still been still using the horse drawn plow. As a result, farming became more efficient.

In 1892, the gasoline engine was invented by John Froelich. The tractor was already great, but adding the gasoline engine, made it even better. The addition of the gasoline engine made the tractor much more efficient to operate.

In 1990, when a global positioning system, or GPS, was first introduced in tractors, farmers realized that it would offer significant benefits. GPS made it much easier to drive a tractor while planting seed. GPS technology is widely available, making it possible for all manufacturers to add GPS as an option. GPS is extremely accurate, down to the fraction of a millimeter. With the addition of GPS and the gasoline engine to tractors, farming today is faster, more efficient and more productive. Farmers can plant and harvest more crops in less time.

The tractor, the gasoline engine, and GPS are three inventions that have made agriculture great. Each of these has made farming more efficient and more productive for the farmer. These inventions have forever changed agriculture.

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Ag Open Golf Outing

Hosted by the WFB Foundation, the 2018 Wisconsin Ag Open will be held on **Monday, September 10**, at Christmas Mountain Village in Wisconsin Dells.

All proceeds from the golf outing will support the WFB Foundation education and leadership programs such as Ag in the Classroom, 4-H, FFA, WFBF Leadership Institute and Young Farmer and Agriculturist activities.

Registration is \$125 and includes 18 holes of golf with cart, box lunch, appetizers, contests and door prizes. Sponsorships are available ranging from \$50 to \$1,500.

For information, please contact Darlene Arneson at darneson@wfbf.com or 608.828.5644.

District 5 Discussion Meet



Monday, August 20
7 pm
Marquette County UW-Extension
Building
480 Underwood Ave, Montello, WI
53949

Wisconsin Farm Bureau
**Young Farmer
and Agriculturist**

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Ignites Spark in Local Leaders

Wisconsin Farm Bureau hosted its first IGNITE Conference at the Holiday Inn Convention Center in Stevens Point on April 5-6. Co-sponsored by Rural Mutual Insurance Company, IGNITE stands for Innovate, Grow, Network, Inform, Train and Engage.

With about 175 members in attendance, the conference gave attendees the opportunity to build leadership skills to strengthen county Farm Bureaus.

The conference began on April 5 with New Mexico Farm and Livestock Bureau's Executive Vice President Matt Rush. Rush talked about the 'snake in your bumper,' which explained the challenges people face but may keep hidden.

The evening banquet's speaker was Indiana farmer Damian Mason who entertained the audience with his humorous views on farming and food.

The conference offered four tracks: policy, issues and advocacy; governance and organization, building Farm Bureau and communicating for agriculture and Farm Bureau. Attend-

ees could follow a certain track or divide their time between multiple tracks. More than 20 breakout sessions were offered. Sessions included updates on the 2018 Farm Bill and trade, consumer outreach tactics, member recruitment and more.

"The breakout sessions at the IGNITE conference were great," said Jackson County Farm Bureau member Darby Sampson. "Along with bringing back a new idea for our Ag in the Classroom program, I also learned that our county Farm Bureau needs to be more involved with local issues and work closer with county and town boards."

During the morning general session on April 6, Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection Secretary Sheila Harsdorf shared her insight on the current state of Wisconsin's agricultural economy. The conference ended with Virginia farmer and motivational speaker Matt Lohr who inspired attendees to 'lift the limits.'

The next IGNITE conference will be held March 26-27, 2020, at the Madison Marriott West in Middleton.



Winnebago County Farm Bureau members Rebecca Poppy and Amy Zentner sported their new Winnebago County Farm Bureau logo jackets while attending a workshop during the 2018 IGNITE Conference.

The following Winnebago County Farm Bureau members attended the IGNITE Conference: Rebecca Poppy, Amy Zentner, Amanda Sandmire, Randi and Cecelia Brooks.

Nearly 200 Attend Farm Bureau's FFA Farm Forum



Winneconne FFA members who attended FFA Farm Forum included (from left) Keegan Hinz, David Hughes, Russell Stertz and Caleb Boutin.

Nearly 200 high school juniors from around Wisconsin attended Wisconsin Farm Bureau's FFA Farm Forum in Wisconsin Rapids on February 16-17.

"This event is a great partnership between Wisconsin Farm Bureau and Wisconsin FFA," said Jim Holte, Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation President. "Young ag leaders who attend this event participate in professional development activities and are able to network with their peers and Farm Bureau staff."

During the two-day event at Hotel Mead, FFA members attended workshops on post-high school agricultural opportunities, social media, agricultural advocacy and leadership.

Joining Holte as keynote speakers at the event were Mariah Martin, UW-Madison Collegiate Farm Bureau member along with Glen Schraufnagel, Wisconsin Cooperative Educational Service Agency (CESA) 10 consultant.

The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation sponsors FFA Farm Forum in cooperation with the Wisconsin Association of FFA.

This year's FFA Farm Forum marks the 46th time the event has been hosted for Wisconsin youth.



Come and Join the Fun at the Winnebago County Fair

The Winnebago County Fair will be **August 1-5** and the Winnebago County Farm Bureau will operate a food stand and the committee has started planning for this year's fair.

Make sure to check out the Winnebago County Farm Bureau food stand. This is a great fundraiser for our organization. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Russ Kriha at 608.436.4764.



District 5 YFA Canoeing
and Picnic

Sunday, August 12
Picnic at noon
Canoeing to follow
Mecan River Outfitters
W720 State Road 23
Princeton, WI 54968

RSVP to District Coordinator
Becky Hibicki
920.517.2445 or bhibicki@wbf.com

There are Benefits to Your Farm Bureau Membership:

Financial

- AgriPlan Medical Reimbursement Program
- Farm Bureau Bank

Supplies and Products

- John Deere's GreenFleet™ Loyalty Rewards Program (NEW)
- Case IH
- Caterpillar
- FS-GROWMARK Patronage
- Grainger
- Office Depot

Communication

- AgriVisor
- The Country Today

Insurance

- Rural Mutual Insurance Company
- Farm Bureau Financial Services

Protection

- \$500 Reward Protection Program
- Accidental Death Policy

Health

- ScriptSave® Prescription Drug Savings Card
- Life Line (NEW)

Travel

- AAA
- AVIS Car Rental Discount Program
- Budget (NEW)
- Choice Hotels International, Inc.
- Wyndham Hotel Group

For complete details visit wfbf.com/benefits-membership.

Winnebago County YFA Update By Jade Silverthorn



This year, attendees were asked to bring canned goods and in total 70 pounds of food items were donated to the local Omro Food Pantry. Thanks to all the generous sponsors including gold sponsor, Ballweg Implement. See you next year on February 2. Please take a look in the newsletter for details on the District 5 YFA Canoeing and Picnic on August 12 and the District Discussion Meet on August 20. If you want to attend, please let me know as the county may carpool to these events.



Also, the deadline for the YFA Achievement and Excellence in Agriculture applications is **July 9**. For information on these contests, visit wfbf.com/programs/young-farmer-and-agriculturist-program/yfa-contests. If you have questions about these award opportunities, please contact Amanda Sandmire or myself.

YFA Spring Tour

It was a gloomy, rainy day when the Winnebago County YFAs hosted their Spring Farm Tour, however, nearly 40 YFAs and guests came out for a tour of Rosendale Dairy.

After enjoying ice cream sandwiches and viewing the rotary parlor, the group headed into the freestall barn to get a better look at the cattle.

Following the farm tour, the group headed to Jasper's Food & Spirits where they had lunch and heard a short presentation about precision technology by Brian Poppy, agronomist with United Cooperative and Farm Bureau board member. Despite the weather, everyone had a great time.

Stompin' at the Shed

The 6th annual Stompin' at the Shed was a great success as nearly 200 guests traveled to the event held at Brighton Acres in Oshkosh.

Guests enjoyed snacking on pizza, listening to music by the 308's and tossing bean bags on the cornhole boards.



Winnebago County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Charlie Knigge	920.379.3934
Vice President, Brian Poppy	920.295.9000
Secretary/Treasurer, Dan Hinz	920.376.0371
YFA Co-Chairs,	
Amanda Sandmire	608.434.0117
Jade Silverthorn	608.369.1044
Director, Brock Baker	920.410.8700
Director, Cecelia Brooks	920.420.3660
Director, Randi Brooks	920.420.2634
Director, Dan Carpenter	920.379.3713
Director, Jim Kasten	920.658.3036
Director, Russ Kriha	608.436.4764
Director, Kevin Radloff	920.589.5515
Director, Nick Radloff	920.379.7540
Director, Amy Zentner	920.426.1056

Winnebago County Farm Bureau	866.666.8015
WFBF Board Director, Kevin Krentz	920.361.7380
WFBF Promotion and Education,	
Lynn Dickman	608.558.9713
WFBF YFA, Sally Turpin	608.462.3387
District 5 Coordinator, Becky Hibicki	920.517.2445
RMIC District Manager,	
Chuck McDaniel	920.420.1106

Meet the New Winnebago County Farm Bureau Members

Ruthanne's Interiors, Inc., Arthur Abraham, Casey Andre, Anna Angell, Andrew Argall, Michael Bargender, Steven Bassetto, Dan Baurichter, Michael Beck, Kristin Bongert, Gary Brill, Kenneth Bundick, Jody Buttke, Mark Carter, Jeffery Coulthard, Russell Dietzen, Samuel Engel, Kayla Gilles, Peter Hackstock, Trevor Hall, Nicholas Hansen, Rick Helms, Dona Hodgen, Judd Hodgen, Richard Jesse, Lindsay Kaslow, Kyle Langlitz, John Leisner, Sheila Leisner, Locita Leveille, Kyia Lindau, Eli Lindau, Dennis Luebke, Kathie Luttrell, Maxo Maceno, Phillip Marksberry, Shauna McCreddie, Michelle Miller, Daniel Miller, Heather Miller, Nduwayezu Munyanganizi, Devin Nikodem, Christine Pingel, Eldon Pomplun, David Rhyner, Mindy Roever, Masomo Rugama, Jaime Sawle, Lincoln Schroeder, Josue Simon, Barbara Sitzberger, Dan Sleik, Brittany Vanden Heuvel, Craig Winkels and Melinda Zimmer.

WFBF Seeks Rural Route Photos

Wisconsin Farm Bureau members live and work in some of the most beautiful places. In Rural Route, WFBF wants to highlight those sights. **Please email your photos (high resolution jpgs, 4x6 inches at 300 dpi) to lsiekmann@wfbf.com.**

