

Grassroots

District 5 News

District Director Report



Kevin Krentz
WFBF District 5 Director

What does Farm Bureau do for me? Have you ever heard this or asked this yourself? I want to share the value of our membership.

One of the biggest impacts Farm Bureau has is advocating for agriculture. Every year hundreds of Farm Bureau volunteers go to schools to help educate kids on sustainable farming practices. Volunteers, staff and our Board of Directors also spend countless hours advocating for our policy with legislatures. Fighting for trade, roads, infrastructure, water, labor, research and many more issues effecting agriculture.

To help Farm Bureau volunteers develop skills to advocate is our professional growth programs. The WFBF Leadership Institute is an intense training program giving members the tools to be future leaders within our organization and our communities.

The Young Farmers and Agriculturist program also provides many leadership opportunities for our younger members along with networking opportunities with like-minded individuals.

And let's not forget the abundance of member benefits including discounts for hotels, equipment purchases, supplies and tool purchases and many more. Our membership also gives us the opportunity to purchase insurance through Rural Mutual Insurance providing us the ability to not only protect our buildings, property and equipment, but also our incomes through crop insurance and the new dairy revenue protection program.

Everyday staff, volunteers and the Board of Directors work diligently on your behalf to strengthen Farm Bureau and to carry the voice of agriculture to our consumers and our legislatures.

When finances are tough, and stress is high it's easy to say Farm Bureau is not doing enough for me. I can reassure you that we have hundreds of people across Wisconsin helping build agriculture.

I also want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to help lead this organization.

God bless and have a safe growing season.

Members Meet with Congressman Grothman

On April 22, Farm Bureau leaders from the Fond du Lac County and Winnebago County Farm Bureaus met with Congressman Glenn Grothman and

his staff to discuss dairy related issues, including: milk labeling, the importance of passing trade agreements and improving immigration laws.



Members from Fond du Lac County and Winnebago County Farm Bureaus met with Congressman Glenn Grothman on April 22; (from left) Congressman Glenn Grothman, Chris Pollack, Roger Grade, Reuben Hopp, Bill Bruins, Earl Sippel, Charlie Knigge and WFBF District 5 Director Kevin Krentz.

District YFA Discussion Meet Planned

The District 5 Discussion Meet contest will be held on **August 27** at Pollack-Vu Dairy near Ripon. An optional farm tour will begin at 6:30 p.m. A meal will be provided at 7 p.m., followed by the Discussion Meet. All are welcome to attend. The District will cover the cost of the meal. For more information, please contact District 5 YFA Chair Sally Turpin at 608.462.3387.



Farm Bureau Booth at WPS Farm Show



The WPS Farm Show was held March 26-28 at the EAA grounds in Oshkosh. The Outagamie County, Fond du Lac County, Green Lake County, Waushara County and Winnebago County Farm Bureaus sponsored a booth. Attendees signed up to win a Milwaukee powered grease gun, valued at more than \$250. More than 400 people signed up. Andrew Gentz from Dodge County was the winner. Congratulations Andrew.



Milwaukee Brewers Baseball Game Trip Planned

District 5 is looking at organizing a trip to a Milwaukee Brewers baseball game. The game is August 11 at 1:10 p.m. It is the Brewers' Farmer Appreciation game.

There will be an event page on Facebook once details are finalized and if we get enough interest we organize a bus.

For more information about the trip, please contact Mark Bertram at mark.j.bertram@gmail.com or 920.960.8817.



Farmers Travel to Madison for Ag Day at the Capitol

On March 20, more than 300 farmers and agriculturists met in Madison for Ag Day at the Capitol. The program kicked off with a transportation panel comprised of Wisconsin DOT Secretary-Designee Craig Thompson, WFBF President Jim Holte, Wisconsin Counties Association Executive Director Mark O'Connell and Dan Cunningham, Forward Janesville, Inc.

The panel members discussed transportation

items in the Governor's budget proposal and what funding possibilities would be viable moving forward.

The featured guest speaker was Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection Secretary-Designee Brad Pfaff who talked with attendees about dairy, hemp and water. He emphasized his rural roots and upbringing on a farm in rural La Crosse County and shared his plans to have DACTP help farmers in whatever

way it can.

After legislative issue briefings by various speakers, attendees walked to the Capitol to meet with their legislators.

"This year's meetings had a strong focus on the Governor's budget proposal and ensuring agriculture programs are well-funded," added President Holte. "Farm Bureau members also stressed the importance of farmers having a seat at the table for water-related discussions."



Fifteen Green Lake members attended Ag Day and met with Rep. Joan Ballweg. Back row (from left) Joe Wollinger, Becky Hibicki, Dave Wilke, Duke Lohrey and Chris Retzlaff; second row (from left) Dave Gneiser, Jean Bahn, David Affeldt and Joe Draeger; Third Row (from left) Angie Draeger, Payton Draeger and Pete Badtke; front row (from left) Kasie Badtke, Rep. Joan Ballweg, Trenton Trecoci and Tyler Draeger.



Fond du Lac County members at Ag Day; (from left) Nate Zimdars, Mark Diederichs, Reuben Hopp, Chris Pollack and Steve Sabel.



Waushara County members at Ag Day; (from left) Kevin Krentz, Adam Jones, Lynn Leahy, Mike Leahy, Kyle Thom, Ryan Nowak and Kent Peterson.



Winnebago County members met with Rep. Mike Schraa; (from left) Rep. Mike Schraa, Mary Jane Behm, Reuben Hopp (Fond du Lac County), Charlie Knigge, Kim Radloff, Kevin Radloff and WFBF District 5 Director Kevin Krentz.



Juneau County Farm Bureau members; Richard Sheahan, Jim Raese, Kip Weber, Terry Turpin and Sally Turpin along with some Sauk County members met with Sen. Howard Marklein and Rep. Tony Kurst.

District YFA Report



Sally Turpin

District 5 YFA Representative

In March, Wisconsin hosted the AFBF FUSION Conference in Milwaukee. This conference is a collaboration of the national Young Farmers

& Ranchers and Promotion and Education committees with members from across the country attending.

Many members enjoyed the great keynote speakers, such as Jim Morris, better known as 'The Rookie', informative breakout sessions, as well as networking opportunities. It is not often that our state gets to host an American Farm Bureau Conference.

Later that month, more than 20 members participated in a tour of J. Henry & Sons Farm, producers of a locally crafted bourbon.

The Henrys grow their own grains, except for the barley malts.

Joe and Liz Henry showed us the rickhouses where the bourbon is aged, as well as their seed corn operation, followed by a tasting of their bourbon varieties.

Our District Discussion Meet will be held on August 27 at Pollock Vu Farms. Additionally, we will organize a cranberry marsh tour this fall. Stay tuned in for details.



District 5 YFA members toured J. Henry and Sons Farm near Dane on March 24.

Plan to Attend A County Fair

The county Farm Bureaus in District 5 have some type of food stand or pie and ice cream booth at each of the county fairs. Make plans to attend your county fair and support your local county Farm Bureau.

Marquette: July 18-21, food stand

Fond du Lac: July 17-21, food stand

Green Lake: August 1-4, food stand

Winnebago: July 31-August 4, food stand

Adams: August 8-11, ice cream stand

Waushara: August 15-18, food stand

Juneau: August 11-18, pie and ice cream

Also, don't forget about the Elroy Fair on **June 27-30** and the Alto Fair on **August 7-8**.



WFBF Holds First Ag LEAD Conference



Becky Hibicki and Juneau County members Alana Voss and Kadi Walsh at the Ag LEAD Conference.



Winnebago County members attended; (from left) Rebecca Poppy, Jennifer Carpenter and Jessie Giddings.

On March 8 and 9, more than 120 farmers and agriculture advocates joined together at the first-ever Ag LEAD Summit in Appleton.

The opening keynote speaker was Donna Moenning from the Center for Food Integrity, who shared data on how farmers

can best engage people on food and farming topics. The closing keynote speaker was Jay Hill a New Mexico farmer, entrepreneur and agricultural advocate who encouraged attendees to step outside of their comfort zones to talk about life on the farm.

The event was coordinated by WFBF's Promotion and Education Committee whose mission is to build awareness and understanding



Members from Green Lake, Marquette, Waushara and Fond du Lac County Farm Bureaus at the Ag LEAD Conference; (from left) District Coordinator Becky Hibicki, Irene Kutz, Yolanda Woloszyn, Sara Stelter, Ashley Henke, Bernadette Krentz, John Ruedinger, Abby Swanke and Linda Swanke.

of agriculture and provide leadership development for the agricultural community.

Ag LEAD stands for leadership, engagement, advocacy and development. The summit gives attendees the opportunity to learn more about tools, resources, ideas and best practices when advocating for agriculture and conducting promotional events. Rural Mutual Insurance Company is co-sponsor of the Ag LEAD Summit, which takes place on a biennial basis.

Area Students Attend FFA Farm Forum

More than 200 high school students attended WFBF's FFA Farm Forum in Wisconsin Rapids on February 15-16.

During the event, FFA members attended workshops that covered topics including post-high school agricultural opportunities, social media, agriculture advocacy and leadership.

Keynote speakers were Jim Holte, WFBF President; Alison Wedig, marketing specialist with Culver Franchising System, LLC; and Chris Pollack, co-owner of Pollack-Vu Dairy.

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 47th time the event has been hosted for Wisconsin youth.

The following students from District 5 attended this year's conference:

Adams County: Emma Hamilton, Adams-Friendship FFA.

Fond du Lac County: Austin White, Serena Freriks, Cody Gerber and Katie Schwanke, Waupun FFA.

Green Lake County: Kaylee Chapman, Markesan FFA.

Juneau County: Isabell Kemper, Dravan Robinson and Olivia Lulich, Mauston FFA

Marquette County: Dayton Cramer and Eddy Gulbranson, Montello FFA; and Robert Burckhardt and Hunter Schehr, Westfield FFA.

Waushara County: Shannon Sachs, Johnathon Conley and Sean Grueneberg of the Tri-County FFA (Plainfield)

Winnebago County: Morgan Selwitschka, Evelyn Brzozowski, Nadia Meyerhofer and Morghan O'Connell of the Winneconne FFA.

Students were sponsored by their respective



Twenty area students attended the FFA Farm Forum in February.

county Farm Bureaus.

For photos from the FFA Farm Forum, visit www.flickr.com/photos/63288552@N07/albums/72157705380416931.

2019 District 5 Annual Meeting Dates - Save the Date

Adams County
Fond du Lac County
Green Lake County
Juneau County
Marquette County
Waushara County
Winnebago County

Sunday, Oct. 20, Grand Marsh Community Center, Social: 6 p.m., Meal: 6:45 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 16, Radisson Hotel and Conference Center, Fond du Lac, Social: 7 p.m., Meal: 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 10, Farmview Event Barn, Berlin, Registration: 7 p.m., Meal: 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 26, Club Chapparel, Wonewoc, Registration: 7 p.m., Meal: 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 21, Crystal Lake Town Hall, Neshkoro, Registration: 7 p.m. Meal: 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 9, Silvercryst Supper Club, Wautoma, Social: 6:30 p.m., Meal: 7 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 10, Location to be determined, Social: 7 p.m., Meal: 7:30 p.m.



Mark
Your
Calendar...

A Message from the President ...



Kay Olson-Martz

Adams County Farm Bureau president

As I sit here contemplating what to write, it feels like we have come to the end of another year. I imagine I feel this way because we

have come to the end of our year for Ag in the Classroom.

Once again, we had a very successful year. We taught monthly in eight classes and presented each class with the Book of the Year, "Fresh Picked-Poetry, A Day at the Farmers' Market." We worked with third-grade students at Adams-Friendship Elementary, fourth-grade students at Grand Marsh Elementary and third-, fourth- and fifth-grade students at Coloma Elementary School. We had 156 students participate.

We also made our new voting goal by March 30. Each year we need to sign 20 new members. Because we met that goal Adams County Farm Bureau will receive a \$1,000 bonus, which is used to help fund many of our county programs. We have one more goal to reach and that is to retain our current members by the end of September.

When you get your dues statement please send it back in as soon as you get it. Remember,

your dues for Adams County are \$50, and if you choose you can contribute more if you wish. Our Farm Bureau gets \$4 back from each membership and that is what we operate our programs with.

We work very well with several other non-profit organizations. We held Grocery Bingo in April, which was very successful. We do this project with Grand Marsh Area Development and ABATE. The price is \$600 worth of groceries. Farm Bureau donates \$300 and Grand Marsh Area Development donates another \$300 for groceries.

We do this project to let people know that it does take quite a few months of the year to pay for groceries for a family of four and where their food comes from. The proceeds are donated to organizations. This year \$1,500 was donated to ABATE for the Angel Tree Program, Westfield Middle School for their Ag-Weather Related Field Trip, Grand Marsh Pathfinders Snowmobile Club for their car show.

We also sponsored several FFA events. We paid the registration fee for the first-time attendees to the FFA National Convention. We sponsored Emma Hamilton to the FFA Farm Forum. We also sponsored Emily Dahlke and Emma Hamilton to attend the Washington Leadership Conference in June. We also donated money to the FFA for their farm day event and pancake supper. We also provided several copies

of agricultural books that FFA members read to the students.

We donated money to help 4-H member Aysia Lawrence from New Haven Helping Hands, towards her 4-H International trip to Japan this summer. What a great experience she will have. We also donated money to help sponsor Dylan Wysocky and Shane Kierstyn to represent the A-F Powerlifters in Japan at the International Competition in May.

So, when I say it feels like an end to our year, you can see why. We are only seven months into our year and many of our programs will come to an end until the fall. I haven't mentioned what we have done and accomplished with your membership dollars, as I only mentioned a few. Thank you for helping provide these programs to our youth and organizations.

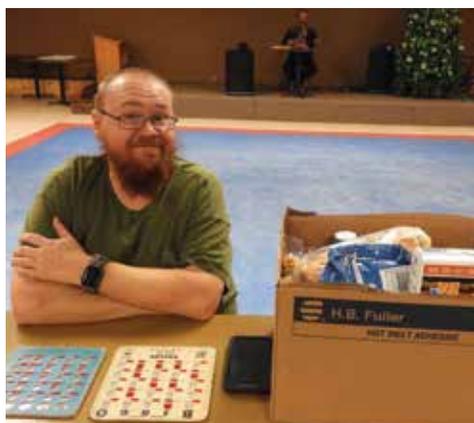
Scholarship forms are ready upon request for graduating seniors or those already in Mid-State, a trade school or college. If you have already received a scholarship from Farm Bureau you cannot receive another one. For more information, please contact me at 608.572.1429 or kolsonartz@gmail.com.

Spring is here, and many will be working in the fields. Farm equipment will be on the roads. Remember, slow down and be patient. Everyone wants to make it home safely by the end of a long day.

Have a very safe spring and summer.

Grocery Bingo Event a Success

Once again the Adams County Farm Bureau partnered with ABATE and the Grand Marsh Development Center to host the annual grocery bingo event on April 7. The Farm Bureau donated \$300 to help cover the costs of the groceries. Proceeds were donated to area programs including \$500 each to the Westfield Middle School for one of their school trips and to ABATE for their programs. Thank you to those who attended the event.



County Ag in the Classroom Essay Winners Announced



Coloma Elementary, third-grade students.



Coloma Elementary, third-grade winners: first place: Eli Coenen; second place: Kloe Warczytona; third place: Kimberly Luis-Paz.



Coloma Elementary, fourth-grade students.



Coloma Elementary, fourth-grade winners: first place: Natalee Meinke; second place: Shelby Gibson; third place: Gavin Morgan (not present).



Coloma Elementary, fifth-grade students.



Coloma Elementary, fifth-grade winners: first place: Isabelle Nelson; second place: Lydia Palmer; third place: Campbell Neufeld.



Grand Marsh Elementary School.



Grand Marsh Elementary, fourth-grade winners: first place: Isabelle Behling; second place: Ashton Kieren; third place: Alexandra Fandrich.



Adams Friendship, Mrs. Benz's third-grade classroom.



Adams Friendship Elementary, Mrs. Benz third grade winners: first place: Abe Huete-Garcia; second place: Bianca Smith; third place: Audrey Harmeyer.



Adams Friendship, Mrs. Diemert's third-grade classroom.



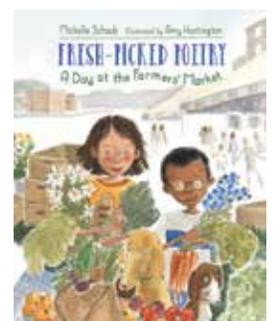
Adams Friendship Elementary, Mrs. Diemert's third-grade winners: first place: Gianna Rosado; second place: Reagan Hudson; third place: Cassandra Stone.



Adams Friendship, Mrs. Wolosek's third-grade classroom.



Adams Friendship Elementary, Mrs. Wolosek's third-grade winners: first place: Brooklyn Stankiewia; second place: Kendra Brom; third place: Jackson Bonnett.



A Message from the President ...



Reuben Hopp

Fond du Lac County Farm Bureau president

As we look back to this past winter it has been a winter of challenges; however, spring has sprung, and

summer is fast approaching. I love to see the green grass appear again. I know that means mowing the lawn again, however; new growth and crops coming out of the ground make a country stroll a beautiful sight. Like the smell of freshly cut hay; all of these

things remind us that summer is here.

The Farm Bureau continues to work hard and has several different events they sponsor throughout the summer. A few of the main events include: The Country Café at the Fond du Lac County Fair, the Alto Farm Bureau and 4-H Fair and our brat fry in August at Brandon Meats.

Kelly Pollack is organizing a county promotion and education committee meeting. If you want to get involved with county promotional or Ag in the Classroom activities, please contact Kelly at 608.333.1427. Enjoy and have a great summer.

God bless.

Make Plans to Attend

ALTO 4-H AND FARM BUREAU FAIR

August 7 -8, 2019

Ag in the Classroom Essay Winner

Annabelle Seel, daughter of Megan and Brian Seel was named the Fond du Lac County Ag in the Classroom essay winner. Annabelle is a fifth-grade student at St. Mary's Spring Academy in Fond du Lac.

Annabelle's award-winning essay.

Making it Happen at the Farmers' Market

Why shop at a grocery store when you can buy fresh local produce at a farmers' market? You'll see farmers selling the food they've grown, but that's not all.

A farmers' market is a place where local farmers come to sell the food they grow on their farms. Vendors set up booths to display their items. This might not sound like a big deal, but farmers' markets are growing in popularity. Over the past fifteen years the number of markets in the U.S. has grown from 1,755 to 8,720.

What can you see at farmers' markets? Some markets sell only produce, while others sell lots

of different items. Other things you can find at a farmers' market are handmade goods such as fabric, soaps and jewelry. You can also see fresh flowers, herbs, fish, honey and spices.

If you visit farmers' markets throughout the year, you'll notice the produce being sold varies seasonally, which is different from a grocery store. This is because different foods are in season at different times. Another thing is that it is all local, so you will only see food that is grown in your area. You won't see bananas in Wisconsin!

You should always be careful, because some people will claim that they are farmers, but are impostors. They buy the produce from wholesalers and re-sell it. Be suspicious if you see retail boxes or wilted food. At the end of the day, farmers donate the leftover food to a food bank. They can use the money that they earned to expand their farming business.

This summer take a trip to your local farmers' market, you'll be amazed at what's being grown in your area.

YFA Pizza Fundraiser a Success

Thank you to those who purchased pizzas from the fundraiser. The county sold 1,238 pizzas and the money raised will help support YFA activities.

The YFA will have a booth at the Alto Fair again, so anyone interested in helping promote agriculture or for information, please contact Jenny Leahy.

Watch the Facebook page for details about a possible Milwaukee Brewers baseball game trip on **August 11** and other summer activities.



The YFA committee held its annual pizza making fundraiser on February 24. Volunteers made more than 1,200 pizzas.

Scholarship Winners Announced



Grant Buwalda, son of Dan and Kristie Buwalda of Waupun is the recipient of a \$1,000 scholarship. He will graduate from Central Wisconsin Christian High School and will attend UW-River Falls to pursue a degree in agribusiness.



Nicol Schmidt of Brandon received a \$500 scholarship. She is the daughter of Joyce and Eugene Schmidt. She is attending UW-Oshkosh majoring in finance and management.



Megan Van Ruiswyk is the daughter of Brad and Dawn Van Ruiswyk of Waupun. She is studying accounting at UW-Fond du Lac and she received a \$500 scholarship



Cayley Vande Berg of Eldorado is a student at UW-River Falls studying dairy science. She is the daughter of Chad and Tammy Vande Berg. Cayley received a \$1,000 scholarship.

A Message from the President ...



Peter Badtke

Green Lake County Farm Bureau president

Greetings Green Lake County Farm Bureau members. It sure is great to see the snow disappear, and the ground warm up

so we can get planting under way.

An update about what has been happening in Green Lake County. In February, Kaylee Chapman was sponsored by Green Lake County Farm Bureau and attended the FFA Farm Forum. This was a nice opportunity for young leaders to participate in professional ag activities, explore ag careers and learn about issues facing agriculture while networking with their peers and Farm Bureau staff.

Ag LEAD Summit was held in Appleton in

March. Five members from the county women's committee attended. This event provided some great insight to our members to better connect with food consumers. Ag LEAD stands for Leadership, Engagement, Advocacy and Development. They learned about the tools, resources and ideas for advocating for agriculture

Natasha Paris received a scholarship to attend the AFBF FUSION Conference on March 15-18. Natasha said it was an excellent conference with great speakers, workshops and tours throughout the state.

Fifteen Green Lake County farmers attended Ag Day at the Capitol on March 20. This is such a great event. Members heard from Secretary-Designee of Agriculture Brad Pfaff, who was raised on a farm in northwest Wisconsin. He understands farming and knows what many farmers are struggling with.

We also heard from speakers about the condition of many county and town roads and ways we can fund this part of our infrastructure. Next, we walked to the Capitol and talked with Rep. Joan Ballweg and Sen. Luther Olsen. This was our opportunity to be a lobbyist for a day, and discuss the issues affecting our farms and tell our story to the legislators who represent us.

Coming up on **July 28**, we will have the second annual Green Lake County Farm Bureau picnic at the fairgrounds. Please come and enjoy brats, burgers and a cornhole tournament. This year, we will celebrate the centennial of WFBF, 100 years is something to celebrate.

Another event will be our annual meeting on **September 10** at the Farmview Event Barn. This will be earlier than normal with Craig Culver, co-founder of Culver's as our guest speaker.

Wishing everyone a safe planting and a great summer. Thanks again.

Princeton Student Wins Essay Contest

The Green Lake County Farm Bureau women's committee named Lydia Jingst from Princeton Elementary the county Ag in the Classroom winner.

Making it Happen at the Farmers' Markets

I love farmers' markets, but the thing I love most is the food. Some of the foods that are at the farmers' markets are baked goods, fresh farm produce and one of my favorites - jams.

Some of my favorite treats are fresh baked pies and cookies. The chocolate chip cookies practically melt in your mouth. The pie's crust

is flaky, and the filling is just exquisite.

Another thing I like is the produce. The fresh sweet corn and the green beans are so delicious. The sweet corn is well, sweet and the green beans are so crunchy. My mother cooks the best sweet corn in the world! We used to have a picnic outside when mom made sweet corn.

My third favorite thing is the jams. All the flavors of jams are so delicious, like blueberry, strawberry, raspberry, blackberry, grape and many more.

I love farmers' markets, but the thing I love the most in the food! I like my local farmers'

market so much. I wrote a poem:

**I love farmers' markets,
I have one in my town
And sometimes stop to walk around,
I smell and see everything.
What joy that can bring!
I try a donut with a glaze,
And then I stop to gaze
At a little bird cage
That's black and white.
I must go before day turns into night!**

Women's Committee Conducts Presentations

Members of the county women's committee conducted Ag in the Classroom presentations at Berlin, Princeton, Green Lake and Markesan Elementary Schools. The presentation focused on farmers' markets.

Afterward students enjoyed a snack of milk and fresh vegetables.



**ALL MEMBER
FAMILY PICNIC**
SUNDAY, JULY 28
12:30 PM

**Green Lake County
Farm Bureau**

Green Lake County
Fair Grounds
Farm Bureau Food
Stand Building

FARM BUREAU WILL PROVIDE MEAT, BUNS, SODA AND
WATER
PLEASE BRING A DISH TO PASS

Juneau County Ag in the Classroom Essay Contest

159 essays were received in the Juneau County Farm Bureau Ag in the Classroom essay contest.

The county winning essay that was submitted to the district contest was written by Signe A. Sardahl, a fifth-grade student at New Lisbon Elementary school.

The other county trophy winners were Oliva Bunker, a fourth-grade student at New Lisbon and St. Pat's Elementary school fourth-grade student Carson Demaske.

The following students were named honorable mentions: Paige Madsen a fourth-grade student from Wonewoc Elementary; Keira Robinson, a fifth-grade student from St. Paul's Lutheran School; and Layla Marty, a fourth-grade student from Royall Elementary.

Signe A Sardahl's award winning essay.

Farmers' Markets

Local food supports local families. When you buy from your local farmers' market you support the vendor or his or her family. Some farmers actually give tours of their farms so that people can see where and how the food that they are buying is grown.

There are so many things that you can find at your local farmers' market. Fruits, like apples, oranges and fresh berries; vegetables like carrots, turnips and green bean; meats like beef, pork, chicken and sometimes lamb; baked goods like cookies, bagels, doughnuts and pies. They have a variety of foods and things are fresh, affordable, and it supports many causes.

There are many farmers' markets in Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin, California, Kentucky,

New York, Iowa, Illinois, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts. Some farmers' markets are open in spring, summer and early fall. Only a few are open in the winter.

Some people think grocery stores are better than farmers' markets because they have local food, but farmers' markets have the most local, and grocery stores can't equal up to farmers' markets in variety and good quality. Some local farmers' markets sell things that you can't find at grocery stores like fresh eggs, lamb, duck and/or heirloom tomatoes.

I would recommend going to a farmers' market because they are local and fun. You could go with friends or family and hang out or it's just fun to walk around and look at all the stuff they have. I myself have gone to a farmers' market and I had a great time.

Field Receives Farm Bureau Scholarship

Abby Field is the daughter of Jim and Teresa Field of Wonewoc. Abby will graduate valedictorian from Wonewoc High School.

In the fall, she will attend UW-Platteville to pursue a degree in animal science with a goal of becoming a large animal veterinarian.

Congratulations Abby!



Wine and Cheese Tasting Held



More than 45 people attended the Juneau County cheese and wine tasting held on April 6 at Club Chaparel in Wonewoc. Thank you to Darrell and Tammy Becker with D & T Delights, Grassland and Mullen's Dairy for donating cheese. Thank you to those who attended.

Marquette County

Marquette County Dairy Breakfast

Marquette County Fairgrounds
757 Main Street, Westfield, WI
Sunday, June 9
7 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Menu: Pancakes, scrambled egg bar, sausage, fried potatoes, apple sauce, cheese, milk, coffee, juice and ice cream

Cost:

Under 6 - Free
6-12 - \$5

Marquette County 12 and older - \$7

Activities:

Kids games and educational activities
Farm animals, Face painting

Live Music by Marv Neilsen and Friends

Peddle Pull - Registration at 9:30 am, pull at 10

Questions or for more information contact
Brooks Buchholz at 608.369.0366



Farm Bureau Celebrates National Ag Day

National Ag Day was March 14. To celebrate the day, Farm Bureau member Ashley Henke took a five-day-old Jersey calf from Borzick Farms to area elementary schools. Students interacted with the calf and asked questions about agriculture.

According to Ashley, "It is always fun to share a little piece of the agriculture world with these kids, as many have never even seen a calf before."

Thanks to Montello and Westfield FFA members for helping during the day and to the Marquette County Farm Bureau for donating ice cream.



Judah Smith Wins County Essay Contest

Judah Smith the son of Andy and Liz Smith and a fourth-grade student at Forest Lane Elementary in Montello was named the Marquette County Farm Bureau essay winner. His teacher is Hannah Coddington.

Judah's winning essay.

Farmers' Markets

Have you ever wondered why people go to a farmers' market? This essay will inform you about why people like to go to farmers' markets. I believe it is because the food is straight from where it came from, the food has more flavor and no artificial flavors, and you can get treats that match the season.

First, people like going to the farmers' market because the food is straight from where it came from. The vegetables are from

the garden. The only things that happen to it is that it got picked and cleaned. It was not sent to any factory and that is good because it could get some bad stuff in it.

Second, people like farmers' markets because it is good for us and the farmers. The farmers would have to pay more to send it to the factory and risk getting yucky stuff in it. It's good for us because it tastes better. The food has more flavor and no artificial flavors. Nobody wants any bad stuff that could make you sick. They want food that is fresh, has flavor, and something that is food for them.

Last, farmers' markets are unique because you can get treats that match the season, and of course they are FRESH! At some farmers' markets, you can make your dessert that you like depending on the season and it's usually cheaper at the farmers' market. I usually want caramel apples in the fall.



Judah Smith with teacher Hannah Coddington. Judah won the Marquette County Ag in the Classroom essay contest.

People like farmers' markets because food is straight from where it came from, they food has more flavor and no artificial flavors, and you can get treats that match the season.

Waushara County

Farm Bureau Participates in Blue Ribbon Kid's Day

Waushara County's largest free family fun and resource fair, Blue Ribbon Kid's Day was held on April 6 at Parkside School in Wautoma.

The event offered information for parents, hands-on activities for kids and loads of family fun. It has been a local tradition since 1992.

Blue Ribbon Kid's Day features nearly 30 exhibitors providing valuable information and activities sure to provide a morning of fun for the entire family.

Blue Ribbon Kid's Day is an activity of the Waushara County Department of Human Services.

The Waushara County Farm Bureau partnered with Rural Mutual Insurance agent Victor Magnus and had a booth. Volunteers passed out Ag in the Classroom activity books and resources and had an ag trivia wheel.

Special thanks to agent Victor Magnus for sponsoring the giveaway items.



County Essay Contest Winner

The essay contest winner is Addyson Rettler from Tri-County Elementary in Plainfield.

Addyson's winning essay.

"May I Help You?"

My farmers' market experience is exciting, and I cannot wait for another season to begin! Auntie, the boss, wakes me up at 3 a.m.

Keeping on track is no big deal.

In line at the square in Madison by 5:45 a.m. with

No time to spare.

Get our spot, set up the tables, and display our fruits and vegetables, jams, jellies, sweet corn and melons.

I sell strawberries, blueberries, and cherry tomatoes because

They are boxed and easier for me to sell (no

weighing involved).

Happy customers, new and returning,

Ask me questions about where our farm is located and what all we grow.

Practicing making change is a favorite.

Part of market, and I also.

Enjoy part the

Never-ending crowd of people who love to visit the farmers' market to buy farm fresh in season items, and baked goods, flowers, meats, and listen to various musicians.

Auntie, another worker, and I.

Take turns restocking, selling, touring, testing and tasting a lot.

The day is very rewarding even in the summer.

Heat. I get

Excited when I get to work at the market.

From loading the truck on Friday night.

And hustling all day long, to

Removing from the truck the few unsold items late on Saturday afternoon.

My anticipation of next week's

Experience is already mounting. I find working the farmers' market is.

Rewarding because I get to.

Share my family's love of growing and marketing quality produce, earn money, and experience what only a few kids get to do.

Make sure to stop by your local farmers' market or roadside stand.

And meet a kid like me.

Ready to say, "May I help you?"

Kindly so you can

Enjoy fresh fruits and vegetables, while supporting,

The hardworking farm families of Wisconsin.

Knigge Family to Host County Dairy Breakfast

The Winnebago County Dairy Promotion committee is pleased to announce the host farm for the Winnebago Breakfast on the Farm is Knigge Farms. Please mark **June 8** on the calendar, breakfast will be served from 8 a.m. to noon.

Come and see the first farm in the U.S. to have robotic milkers. Where the cows milk themselves.

Members are asked to help with set-up on June 7, starting at 9 a.m., and the day of the breakfast to help with food prep and activities around the farm.

To volunteer or for more information, please contact Rob Stone at 920.420.7489.



New UW-Extension Staff



Dana Berger began her position as Winnebago County 4-H Program Coordinator on December 1. She earned a bachelor's degree in business management and brings more than 20 years of experience working in the nonprofit sector. Dana

also brings working knowledge of managing diverse clients and volunteers in her previous positions with Financial Information and Service Center/Goodwill North Central Wisconsin and Community Music and Arts Collaborative of Neenah.

Dana grew up on a dairy farm in Fond du Lac County and has fond childhood memories of being a member of the Campbelsport 4-H Club. She is married to Paul and had two daughters, Margaret (19) and Anna (16).

For more information, please contact Dana at 920.232.1974 or dana.berger@wisc.edu.



John Thompson began his position as Winnebago County agricultural educator on March 18. He earned a bachelor's degree in agronomy and has worked as an agronomist since 1980, as well as owned/operated his own farm since 1987 in Volant,

Pennsylvania.

Over the years, he raised numerous acres of corn, soybeans, wheat, spelts and alfalfa. In addition, he had one of first seasonal dairy operations in the county where he performed intense rotational grazing and recently moved to raising Katahdin Hair Sheep. He has been a member of the Lawrence County Agriculture Extension Association board of directors, Pennsylvania Forage and Grasslands Council and a chair of the Western Region Advisory Committee. John brings with him a wealth of knowledge in not only agronomy, but also farm and livestock management.

John grew up on a small family farm in Lawrence County, Pennsylvania, and was a member of the local 4-H club and FFA. His daughters, Carleigh (18) is earning a bachelor's degree in animal science and Rylenn (16) is sophomore in high school. Both daughters are active in FFA, marching band and on the farm where they continue to live with their mother, Kari. John has plans to purchase a farm and move his family and sheep to Wisconsin.

For more information, please contact him at john.thompson@ces.uwex.edu or 920.232.1970.

Celebrate **JUNE DAIRY MONTH**

Breakfast on the Farm

Knigge Farms
4577 Poygan Ave, Omro WI 54963

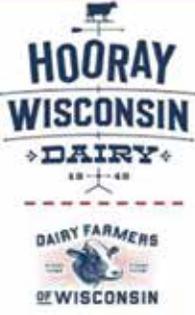
Where the cows milk themselves!



MENU: Enjoy a Wisconsin Egg Omelet, sausage from Beck's Meat Processing, pancakes, an assortment of Wisconsin cheese, fruit, milk, coffee, and enjoy Leon's Frozen Custard.

Activities includes a cheese tasting, farm tour, and a youth activities tent. Prizes for the kids and much more fun for the whole family.

Enjoy Music by:  **Remington's Ride**



June 8, 2019 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Brought to you by:











\$7.00
Per Person

\$3.00
Ages 4-11
3 and Under FREE!
Cash only

Essay Contest Winners Announced



Ag in the Classroom essay contest winners; (from left) runner-up Claire Gallenberg, first place winner Parker Stam, and runner-up Madison Morgan.

All three winning essays were written by fourth-grade students in Mrs. Peerenboom's class at Winneconne Elementary School. In all, Winnebago County had 22 participants between Omro and Winneconne Elementary Schools. Everyone was awarded a dairy activity book

and a coupon to redeem for a milk at the Winnebago County Fair Farm Bureau food stand. The runner-up winners also received admission for four to the Winnebago County Breakfast on the Farm. In addition, Parker Stam received \$25.

Parker's award-winning essay.

Farmers' Market

Do you like fruits and vegetables? If you like the store brought fruits and vegetables, I know you will love the farmers' market fruits and vegetables. The first reason I love farmers' market is because all the foods are fresh. The next reason I love farmers' markets is because they know their customers. The last reason I love farmers' markets is because you have a lot of options to choose from.

The first reason I love farmers' market is because all the foods are fresh. What I mean by fresh is that they do not come from that far away. I think food would taste better if it came from a local farmer, then a farmer that lives in Nevada or not in your state.

The next thing I love about farmers' markets is they know their customers. For example, if you are from the area, they may know you by name. If they know you, they will help you every time you visit.

The third reason I love farmers' markets is because you have lots of options to choose from. When I say a lot of options I mean A Lot of options. Farmers' markets have a lot of booth and even more fruits, vegetables and sometimes cookies! Now I'm hungry. Farmers' markets also have plants, animals and a lot of people.

I know that everyone has a store they go to, but do you have a farmers' market? If you do that is where you should shop from now on. The first reason I love farmers' markets is because all the foods are fresh. The next reason I love farmers' markets is because they know their customer. The last reason I love farmers' markets is because you have a lot of options to choose from.

National Ag Day Book Reading Event

Every year, producers, agricultural associations, corporations, universities, government agencies and countless others across America join to recognize the contributions of agriculture. National Agriculture Day is a salute to American agriculture and everyone who plays a role in it. According to the Agricultural Day website, the purpose of National Agriculture Day is to, "celebrate the abundance provided by agriculture."

Omro FFA students spent the day reading ag-related books to more than 400 elementary students on National Ag Day, which was on March 14. It was a great success and the county hopes to make this an annual event.

Stompin' at the Shed Event Held in February

The seventh annual Stompin' at the Shed event organized by the Winnebago County YFA committee was held February 2 at Brighton Acres near Oshkosh.

Nearly 200 people attended the event. A local band, the 308's, performed and attendees participated in the popular tug-of-war competition.

Thank you to Ballweg Implement for their generous support of the event.



The first-place team posed for a photo following the popular tug-of-war competition held during the Stompin' at the Shed event.



Nearly 200 people attended the Stompin' at the Shed event held in February.

County YFA Spring Tour a Success

By Jade Silverthorn

Winnebago YFA members kicked off the start of the spring season with a bus trip on March 30. Nine YFA members visited LaClare Family Creamery in Fond du Lac County. Admittedly, most of the group is involved in dairy cow production farms, so it was very interesting to learn about the management of a dairy goat farm.

After touring the facilities, they learned more about the processing of their products and enjoyed some samples of cheese and milk.

After lunch, the group was toured Pure Class Vodka in Eureka. The Hendricks family takes great pride in their handcrafted distillery and uses potatoes to produce a smooth and high-quality vodka product. Everyone had a great day and we look forward to a great spring tour next year.





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- Adams County
- Fond du Lac County
- Green Lake County
- Juneau County
- Marquette County
- Waushara County
- Winnebago County

Growing Farm Safety Traditions in Wisconsin



Safety is important. Be smart, be safe, live another day.

Review farm safety tips and resources at
RuralMutual.com/farmsafety

