



Grassroots

District 5 News

District 5 Coordinator Report



Becky Hibicki

District 5 Coordinator

I always look forward to attending Ag Day at the Capitol.

This event is held annually and is for farmers and agriculturists to learn more about state issues affecting agriculture and meet with their state legislators.

It is always exciting to visit the Capitol and meet face-to-face with legislators. It is great to see members taking an active role in discussing agricultural issues with their legislators; however, I will admit, this year I was not sure about how a 'virtual' Ag Day at the Capitol would be received. With more than 250 people attending, the event was a success. This year, Ag Day at the Capitol was held virtually on March 24.

Attendees listened to pre-recorded welcome messages from Governor Tony Evers and Secretary-designee of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection Randy Romanski. WFBF President Kevin Krentz encouraged members to share their stories and communicate with their legislators throughout the year.

During the issue briefing session, attendees were updated on increased funding for broadband expansion, providing farmer grant programs for nitrogen optimization projects, addressing meat processing infrastructure, transportation funding, well remediation, wildlife damage, truth in food labeling and other bills including farmland preservation tax credit and the Wisconsin initiative for agricultural exports and dairy processor grants.

Support for agricultural nitrogen legislation also was discussed, and attendees were asked to encourage legislators to support grants to farmers for the implementation of on-farm projects that are designed to reduce nitrate loading to groundwater.

In the afternoon attendees met with their legislators to discuss agricultural issues.

I have always been impressed how members in District 5 take an active role in staying in contact with legislators and are involved in policy development. It is great to see 'grassroots' in action.

Another great way to get involved is by being active in helping develop your county Farm Bureau's resolutions. I encourage members to attend the District 5 Policy Development meeting on **Wednesday, July 28**, at Pete Badtke's farm near Ripon.

Members in the district are encouraged to attend. Pizza and soda will be served at 7 p.m., followed by the meeting. There is no cost to attend the event, but RSVPs are encouraged.

For questions, please contact me at hhibicki@wfbf.com or 920.517.2445.

Calendar of Events

County Fair Dates

July

- 8-11 Marquette County Fair, Westfield
- 14-18 Fond du Lac County Fair, Fond du Lac

August

- 4-8 Winnebago County Fair, Oshkosh
- 5-8 Adams County Fair, Friendship
- 5-8 Green Lake County Fair, Green Lake
- 15-22 Juneau County Fair, Mauston
- 19-22 Waushara County Fair, Wautoma

County Annual Meeting Dates: Watch your mail for your postcard invite.

August

- 30 Waushara County Annual Meeting, Fairgrounds, Wautoma

September

- 9 Winnebago County Annual Meeting, Brighton Acres, Oshkosh
- 14 Green Lake County Annual Meeting, Farmview Event Barn, Berlin
- 17 Marquette County Annual Meeting, Breezy Hollow Farm, Montello
- 20 Fond du Lac County Annual Meeting, Radisson Conference Center, Fond du Lac
- 30 Juneau County Annual Meeting

October

- 17 Adams County Annual Meeting



May Is Beef Month

Beef Month Trivia: In what U.S. states do the number of cattle out number the human population?

For the answer, check out the last page of the newsletter.

• MAY IS BEEF MONTH •



IT'S WHAT'S FOR DINNER.

District 5 News

Young Farmer and Agriculturist Update



Sara Menard

District 5 YFR Chair

The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation's Young Farmer and Agriculturist program is for members between 18 and 35 years old.

The YFA program offers opportunities for leadership and skills development, along with the chance to meet and network with peers.

Why YFA? The Young Farmer and Agriculturist program is for Farm Bureau members between the ages of 18 and 35. It provides members with an opportunity to enhance their leadership skills while networking with their peers.

Many of the young members who have participated in the program have gone on to become active county, state and national Farm Bureau leaders, as well as respected leaders in their communities.

Want to get involved in your county YFA program? Contact me at 318.572.9731 or your county YFA chair.

Adams County: Jeff Huber, 608.369.2995

Fond du Lac County: Jenny Leahy, 920.979.3213

Green Lake County: Natasha Paris, 920.767.1108

Juneau County: Sally Turpin, 608.462.3387

Marquette County: Kaycee Bittelmann, 920.463.0201

Waushara County: Lynn Leahy, 608.558.9713

Winnebago County: Jaime Sawle, 608.370.2915

District 5 Policy Development Meeting

Pete Badtke's Farm
N7511 State Road 44/49
Ripon, WI 54971
Wednesday, July 28

7 pm - Meal
(pizza and soda)
Meeting to Follow

RSVP by July 26 to District Coordinator Becky Hibicki at 920.517.2445 or bhibicki@wfbf.com



YOUNG FARMER & AGRICULTURIST CONFERENCE

December 3-5

Wisconsin Farm Bureau
Young Farmer and Agriculturist
Program



Check out this offer for first time attendees!

If you've never attended this event before, Rural Mutual wants to sponsor you and a guest. Just complete the sponsorship application at <http://bit.ly/RuralSponsor21>.

You may apply as an individual or as a couple, but don't delay - only 50 double-occupancy rooms are available, and the deadline to apply is **August 16!**

If you are a Farm Bureau member age 18-35 and are selected for sponsorship, Rural Mutual will pay the conference registration fee for you and a guest and two nights lodging at the Kalahari Resort. If selected, you will be notified by September 17, and additional details regarding the conference will be emailed to you with a conference registration form that you will be required to complete.



Apply Today at <http://bit.ly/RuralSponsor21>

Refer a Friend & Get Entered to Win \$1,000!

For any YFA member who refers a first-time attendee, their name will be placed in a drawing for \$1,000. The winner will be selected during the Friday evening banquet.

(You must be present at the Friday evening banquet to qualify.)

Excellence IN AGRICULTURE

Wisconsin Farm Bureau
Young Farmer and Agriculturist
Program

The Excellence in Agriculture Award judges participants on their involvement in agriculture, leadership ability, involvement and participation in Farm Bureau and. Applicants derive a majority of income from an off farm career. Examples include agriculture teacher, fertilizer salesperson, veterinarian, farm employee, agricultural marketer.

Open to all YFA members ages 18-35.

Applications due by 4 p.m. on July 1, 2021

Visit the YFA Awards page at wfbf.com for application information and resources.

Winners will represent Wisconsin at the 2022 AFBF Convention in Atlanta in addition to prizes from GROWMARK.

District 5 Discussion Meet

DATE: Wednesday, August 25

TIME: 7:00 p.m

LOCATION: Heartland Farms
907 3rd Avenue
Hancock, WI

Pizza and soda will be provided.

Question to be discussed:

How can Farm Bureau improve its effectiveness at recruiting YFA members and increasing participation in YFA programs?

For questions, to participate or RSVP by August 20, contact District 5 YFA Representative, Sara Menard at 318.572.9731 or smenar44@gmail.com or District 5 Coordinator, Becky Hibicki, at 920.517.2445 or bhibicki@wfbf.com

Wisconsin Farm Bureau
Young Farmer and Agriculturist
Program

Promotion and Education Committee Update



Lynn Leahy

District 5 Promotion and Education Chair

Hello again. Thanks to the dry and (mostly warm) weather, we completed planting our potato crop on April 24.

Hopefully, you have been able to get into the field as well in the month of May. Most farms in Wisconsin do not have the sandy beach that we have in Waushara and Adams County.

Activities are beginning to increase for the Promotion and Education Committee in post-COVID times as are for many groups and county Farm Bureaus.

In July, we are looking forward to our first in-person meeting. The committee has not met in-person since February 2020. I'm looking forward to reconnecting with committee members and meeting our three new members who started on the committee in December 2020.

We held our second Ag LEAD Summit as a virtual event on March 12. This event was scheduled as an in-person event last year and was postponed as the COVID lockdowns were beginning in March 2020.



The virtual conference featured nearly all the speakers and presenters who were on the original agenda in 2020. During this day-long event, attendees learned about a variety of topics from building volunteer teams to understanding consumer trends and connecting with consumers to continuing the farming legacy.

We received great feedback from the participants who attended. We are looking forward to planning the next Ag LEAD Summit to help our members and county Farm Bureaus enhance their Leadership, Engagement, Advocacy and Development skills.

If you have ideas or topics you want to learn more about at the next summit, please contact me.

The Promotion and Education Committee has assisted with the Ag in the Classroom essay contest as in previous years. The month of April consists of county chairs judging essays and submitting the winning essays to the District Promotion and Education Chair.

As District Promotion and Education Chair, I get a group of family, friends and coworkers together to help me pick the winning district essay. We consider the proficiency of the writer as well as educational content and creativity.

The District 5 winner is Elli Rettler from Tri-County Elementary in Plainfield, Waushara County.

District 5 had 402 essays submitted, which is the most out of any district in the state. Great job Ag in the Classroom chairs and county Promotion and Education Chairs. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

As some of you may know, I was elected as Chair of the Promotion and Education Committee this past December.

With my appointment as Chair, I began a concurrent one-year term on the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Board of Directors. I provide guidance to our organization along with the other nine district directors and YFA chair as an 11-member board.

We have been meeting in person for half of our meetings and virtually for the other half. I'm enjoying my time immensely on the board by strengthening connections with our Farm Bureau staff and other directors as well as learning about and understanding aspects of our organization in greater depth and detail.

As we head into summer, I want to wish everyone luck with any upcoming breakfast on the farm or ag promotion events.

We have May Beef Month, June Dairy Month, July Ice Cream Month, August Goat Cheese Month and many more day and month commodity celebrations throughout the summer. We have a multitude of diverse agricultural commodities that are produced in District 5 from fruits to vegetables to animals and animal products.

I am wishing you a successful and plentiful growing season in 2021. If you have questions or need resources, please contact me.

Photo Feature

Do you have a great photo you want to share?

For a chance to have your photo featured in an upcoming District 5 Newsletter, email high resolution photos to District 5 Coordinator Becky Hibicki at bhibicki@wfbf.com.



The featured photo was submitted by Waushara County Farm Bureau member Bernadette Krentz of her great grandson Hunter Wisht.



POLICY PULSE

An e-newsletter to keep Wisconsin Farm Bureau members up to date on the latest policy and legislative news and other happenings in the governmental relations division.

SIGN UP HERE:
<http://bit.ly/PolicyPulseSignUp>

Ag Day at the Capitol Set For March 24

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

A Message From The President



Kay Olson

Adams County Farm Bureau
President

This has been quite the year. I am happy to report that we did make our membership goal for signing new members. That

means we will receive a \$1,500 bonus from the Wisconsin Farm Bureau.

On behalf of the entire board of directors, we ask you send in your dues when you receive your renewal notice in the mail. Some still call about how much the dues are and seem to be confused by the billing statement.

Your Adams County dues are \$50. Your statement also has an optional amount you can pay. That amount is a donation to the Volunteers for Agriculture and the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation.

Speaking of dues, I would like some feedback

before August. Your board of directors have not raised our dues for years, even though the state and national has. What that means is we only get one dollar (\$1) back for every member. We used to get more but without raising our dues we do not. Most counties have raised their dues to \$55.

We can only raise dues at our county annual meeting in the fall of each year. If the state raises their dues, we will have to consider raising ours or we would be owing the state organization (WFBF) money.

Your membership and renewal, plus getting new members each year, helps us continue to run our Ag in the Classroom program, scholarships and donations to the youth and youth organizations throughout our county.

Talking about our programs, we are optimistic that we will be able to open our ice cream booth at the fair. We are checking with the CDC and other health guidelines within our county to see what needs to be done. The fair board has set the fair dates of **Aug. 5-8**.

As of now our meetings are still virtual. If you want to attend or have a request, please contact me and I can have that link sent to you. Our meetings are usually held the fourth Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m.

Remember many farmers are moving machinery from field to field on the roads. Be patient and stay a safe distance behind them.

I mention this because I was behind two pieces of farm equipment and two vehicles passed me on a curve with oncoming traffic. I can still hear the screeching of tires the blowing of the horns and the near miss of a terrible accident. I was terrified as I had my grandson in my vehicle with me.

As the saying goes, slow down and smell the roses. In this case, slow down, be patient and remember everyone wants to make it home safe. Just to give you an idea of how much those two pieces of equipment slowed me down. It was only four minutes and then I passed them slowly and safely.

Have a safe summer.

Fond du Lac County

IT'S GOING TO HAPPEN!!

**The 2021 Fond du Lac County Fair
July 14 - 18**

The Farm Bureau's Country Café will be OPEN

**Volunteers are Needed
Three Shifts**

6:30 am - 11 am, 11 am - 4 pm, 4 pm - 8 pm

**Contact Mary Runge at 920.960.3176
or Sarah Breuer at 920.418.2173**

(call or text)

to sign up to help.

County Essay Contest Winner

Alexander Smyczek, a fourth-grade student at St. Mary's Springs Academy was the winner of the Fond du Lac County Ag in the Classroom essay contest.

Alexander's winning essay.

Why Wisconsin Soybean Farmers Fueled Wisconsin Economy

Wisconsin soybean farmers fueled the Wisconsin economy because the farmers send the soybeans to be made into other goods. Soybeans are used to make many foods such as cheese and other protein packed foods.

Soybeans are very important to people that are allergic to milk, the beans are made into a different kind of milk for the people that allergic to milk called soy milk. Soybeans are in a lot of foods and everyday object such as crayons, paints, inks, plastics, lotions, fertilizers, and soap.

Soybeans grown in Wisconsin are very important to our economy because they are used to make SO many different objects, materials, and goods. Therefore, soybean armers fill up a large part of the economy by sending their soybeans to be made into so many everyday objects, foods, and materials.

A Message From The President



Reuben Hopp
Fond du Lac County Farm Bureau President

After a very challenging year of COVID, it appears we are going to become more active again. Wisconsin Farm Bureau functions seem to be coming to life again. The Fond du lac Fair is going to happen. The Alto Farm Bureau Fair

also is on the planning table. Our County Centennial Committee met to set the date for our celebration this fall, which is exciting.

Fond du lac County Farm Bureau met the early bird membership goal. Much thanks to Trayton Greenfield and a few others for their work in making it happen.

So far it has been a great planting season. Safety is certainly a concern as we put in long tiresome hours. Please be careful as you work so hard to accomplish your endeavors.

There are still many issues that the WFBF and AFBF are working on for the betterment of our membership. We are certainly grateful for the direction and work that our District 5 Director and WFBF President Kevin Krentz is doing for us.

Everyone stay safe and be thankful for each day of life.
God bless you.

Abel, Powers Win County Scholarships

Each year the Fond du Lac County Farm Bureau offers scholarships to both graduating high school seniors and those already enrolled in post-secondary education. If you are interested in getting involved in the county scholarship committee, contact Tim Haack at 920.251.7583. The Fond du Lac County Farm Bureau awarded \$1,000 scholarships to Nate Abel of Fond du Lac and Macenzie Powers of Ripon.



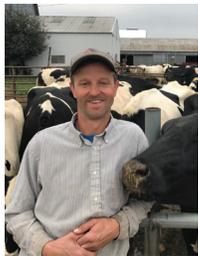
Nate Abel is the son of Steve and Deb Abel. He plans to attend UW-Fond du Lac to study business management and then plans to return to the family's farm, Abel Dairy Farms. He was active in the Fond du Lac High School Trap Team and a member of 4-H.



Macenzie Powers graduated from Ripon High School. She plans to attend Knox College to pursue a career in psychology. Macenzie is the president of the Ripon FFA and an active member of 4-H and exhibits at the Alto 4-H and Farm Bureau Fair, and Fond du lac County and Green Lake County Fairs.

Green Lake County

A Message From The President



Peter Badtke
Green Lake County Farm Bureau President

Hello, Green Lake County Farm Bureau members.

Ag Day at the Capital was held virtually on March 24. This was the first time it has ever been held virtual, but was probably one of the best, with a great line up of speakers briefing more than 250

farmers and agriculturalists on the current issues in Wisconsin.

Bill Esbeck from the Wisconsin Telecommunications Commission talked about the need for broadband expansion especially in the unserved areas as well as the underserved areas. Internet is as important today as electricity was many years ago.

As we know, the last year has made everyone realize how important a good high speed connection is as well as broadband has to be available to all with an affordable price.

Attendees were asked to support legislation for grants to farmers for the implementation of on farm projects that are designed to reduce nitrate loading to groundwater. Along with this is a well compensation program, to repair or replace rural wells in the state. Nitrates in well water is one of the state's biggest issues with water.

One of the biggest issues facing Wisconsin, has been the meat and dairy supply chain, which has been under a lot of stress over the last year. We need to support the creation of the meat processor grant program through DATCP. Grants would be used to expand and modernize meat processing operations and grow the meat industry.

Supporting the DATCP Dairy Processor Grant program would give dairy processor plants resources to enhance and develop the current

business and improve production, profitability and help dairy processors innovate.

After hearing about these issues, we had Zoom meetings with Representative Alex Dahlman (R-Green Lake) and Senator Joan Ballweg (R-Markesan). It is nice to meet with the elected legislators and discuss how these and other issues affect our farms or businesses as we produce food to feed Wisconsin, America and the world.

I think you would agree especially after how crazy the last year was that our food supply chain is so important to each and every one of us. Food comes from the farm and has to get to the stores and eventually to the consumer, and when just one part has a hiccup it can create a short supply even though there actually is an abundance.

On April 10 we served more than 300 people at our drive-thru pork dinner in Princeton. Thanks to the volunteers who helped make this event a success, and maybe we will have another dinner in 2022.

On **Sunday Aug. 1**, we will have our county Farm Bureau summer picnic at the food stand building at the fairgrounds.

Please plan to attend for good food and once again we will be having our corn hole tournament and new this year, we will have trophies for the top three teams.

Thanks for your continued membership.



Rohde Wins Ag in the Classroom Essay Contest

The county received 33 Ag in the Classroom essays. Green Lake County essay winners: **Fifth Grade:** First Place: Leah Rohde, \$20; Second Place: Daelin Cody, \$15; Third Place: Samuel Austin, \$10; **Fourth Grade:** First Place: Evelyn MacGowan, \$20; Second Place, Easton Russel, \$15.

Leah Rohde's essay was selected as the county winner and forwarded on for the district contest.

Leah's winning essay.

Soybeans

Soybeans are used in a lot of things that you do not even know about. People use soybeans for food, fuel, and feed.

One food that is made with soybeans is soy sauce. It is one of the main things people use that contains soybeans. It is mainly used to marinate meat or as a side for steak to pour over the top. Second is soymilk. It is milk for people who are lactose intolerant or for people who do not like milk. Third is soy cheese. It is lower in fat and calories, so it is a little healthier. It is also lactose-free depending on the brand.

Soy biodiesel is a non-toxic fuel made from soybean oil that can be used in any diesel engine. It reduces greenhouse gases. It is also healthier for the environment too. Biodiesel is a way to keep our environment healthier.

Animal feed is another use for soybeans. Over 70% of soybeans are used for animal feed, particularly for chicken and cows. The reason they use soybeans for livestock is because for meat places it gives organic feed which makes the meat more organic. Soybeans are one of the main sources of animal feed.

There are so many things you can do with soybeans that I didn't even know about. Now when I look at our soybean field I will know where they all go.

WFBF Leadership Institute Update

By Chad Bruss, Green Lake County Farm Bureau Board of Director

While we may not be in-person with others for the institute class up to this point, but rather meeting virtually, we have connected on different levels and have gotten to know one another quite well.

It has been a great experience this far expanding on our leadership skills. We have learned a lot about ourselves as people, both how we interact with others and how we work together with others in teams.

Being a strong leader starts with knowing what your strengths are as it pertains to your leadership skills and values.

We have done multiple surveys and assessments to find out who we are and find out how we can improve our leadership not only in Farm Bureau, but as it partakes to life in general as well.

We also have worked on our public speaking skills and becoming more comfortable speaking in front of others. While some of the things we have done so far have sometimes pushed us out of our comfort zone a time or two, it is pushing us to improve ourselves to become better people.

We have had a lot of great speakers who have come in and talked to us about different aspects of Farm Bureau, as well as giving us more insight on in depth topics related to improving our leadership skills and public speaking.

They have given us a lot of good tips and tricks to take our leadership to the next level and how to fine tune it.

This class has been a great opportunity to find out more about yourself, the leadership skills that you have, as well as areas that you need to be more aware of.

I look forward to meeting again this fall to continue our leadership classes and to continue our journey to strengthening our leadership skills.

County Participates in Farm Neighbor Cares Program

The Green Lake County Farm Bureau participated in the Farm Neighbor Cares Program on April 24 by delivering care packages to area farmers.

Farm Neighbors Care is a social media campaign to support our farmers who are facing stress due to low market prices, poor weather and crop conditions, etc.

Farming can be an isolating career, especially if other family members work off the farm. It is important to check in on your friends, neighbors and family members to gauge how they are doing and offer support and a listening ear.

The campaign asks rural residents to have face-to-face conversations with farmers and agri-business owners. For some, this conversation and check-in may be the dose of positivity needed to make it through a tough day.

To participate in the Farm Neighbors Care campaign, you simply need to make or buy a treat (think cookies and milk, coffee and donuts, a hot meal, a bottle of water or anything that will bring a smile to someone's face) and take a photo. Share the photo of your treat/goodie bag on Facebook with #FarmNeighborsCare and encourage others to do the same.

Then deliver the treat or goodie bag to your friend, neighbor or family member and talk with that person to show your support.



Green Lake County board of director Dave Wilke (left) gives a Farm Neighbor Care package to Matt Jahnke.

Photo credit: Roger Matthews, Berlin Journal Newspaper

Extension Update

By Ben Jenkins, Green Lake County Agriculture Extension

Please save the date for the Land and Lake Families Field day to be held at Avalon Creek Farm on

Saturday, Aug. 21.

Serge Koenig, NRCS Sauk

County, will be there to speak on

rotational grazing and Jamie Patton, UW-Madison Soil Health Specialist, will talk about soil health and cover crops.

This field day welcomes community members to come together to talk about what we can all do to improve Big Green's water quality.

By bringing together farmers and shoreline owners, the Green Lake Association aims to demonstrate the importance of how conservation practices on the land impact Green Lake.

Green Lake Conservation Department will showcase creek improvements.

The event is free and lunch will be provided.



GREEN LAKE ASSOCIATION

WE CARE FOR OUR LAKE

County Scholarships Announced

By Irene Kutz, Green Lake County Women's Committee Chair



Cole Slark received a Green Lake County Farm Bureau Scholarship. His parents are Dean and Amy Slark. Cole plans to study agricultural business. He is involved in activities including wrestling, football and track. He also is involved with many clubs including National Honor Society and FFA. Cole participated in a youth apprenticeship program to work on a dairy farm milking cows. Through 4-H, he has shown sheep and dairy cattle.



Joshua Mittelstadt received a Green Lake County Farm Bureau Scholarship. His parents are Charles and Gina Mittelstadt. Josh lives on a dairy farm and plans to study at Fox Valley Technical College Agricultural Business. He wants to use his education and knowledge to sell agricultural products, i.e., equipment, agronomy products and livestock items. He wants to focus on large equipment and learn about the technology and advances used on farms. Josh was involved in FFA and 4-H.

Juneau County

wfbf.com/about/counties/juneau
JuneauCountyFarmBureau

A Message From The President



Kip Webber

Juneau County Farm Bureau President

Greetings, Juneau County Farm Bureau member. Spring is off to a great start. The weather is starting to warm up and we have received some timely rains. Also, with the challenges of COVID hopefully soon behind us, it's exciting to be able to focus on getting back to normal activities.

Here are a few highlights:

- Our county Farm Bureau board of directors just started back to meeting in person for monthly board meetings.
- The county received 150 Ag in the Classroom essays.
- Deena Degner was awarded the Juneau County Farm Bureau Scholarship.
- The board is planning for an in-person county annual meeting on September 30. Mark your calendar and plan to attend and watch your mail for the postcard invite.
- Sally Turpin and I attended the virtual Ag Day on March 24. It was great to meet with our legislator and discuss issues facing ag.

If you ever have questions regarding the Juneau County Farm Bureau, please contact me at 608.495.0709.

Degner Wins County Scholarship

Hi, I am Deena Degner, daughter of Matt and Robin Degner, and I graduated from Wonewoc-Center High School, class of 2021.

I'm also was Wonewoc-Center's class of 2021 valedictorian.

In the fall, I plan to attend UW-Platteville to major in biology/pre-med.

Agriculture has always been a huge part of my life. Both sets of my grandparents farmed and so does my family. I also have shown livestock since I was in third grade and have loved it ever since.

I show beef cattle and swine at local fairs and the Wisconsin State Fair. I want to continue to grow in my passion for agriculture at UW-Platteville therefore I intend on joining their Block and Bridle Club as well as their collegiate Farm Bureau.



County Receives 150 Ag in the Classroom Essays

The Juneau County Farm Bureau Ag in the Classroom committee received 150 essays this year.

New Lisbon Elementary School fifth-grade student Bristol Dummer's essay was selected to represent the county at the district contest.

Other trophy winners were: Sophie Pitts from Grayside Elementary; Kendyl Rowe from Wonewoc Center; and Trentin Mayer from Wonewoc Center.

Bristol's winning essay.

How Have Wisconsin Soybean Farmers Fueled Wisconsin's Economy?

Wisconsin soybean farmers fuel Wisconsin's economy in a lot of different ways. In this essay you will learn some of them and see how useful soybeans are.

Soybeans are in lots of different foods such as yogurt, mayonnaise, Jell-O cooking oil, protein bars, tofu, some cereals, some breads, and plenty of other foods too. There are lots of soy ingredients. Soybean oil, which is made from soybeans is used mainly for cooking and being made into sauces and dressings. There is also soy milk, soy flour and soy protein.

Soybeans can also be made into fuel and mosquito repellent. They are used in some school supplies, like pencils and crayons. Did you know that 1 acre of soybeans can make 82,368 crayons? Some clothes have soybeans in them, like-shirts, skirts, towels, bed sheets, sleepwear, and sportswear. It is made with a blend of soy and organic cotton.

Everything above is made with soybeans and there are still more, but they all help Wisconsin's economy by bringing money and resources back into Wisconsin, so it can help the state and its people, and all of that came from a little bean.

A Message From The President ...



Aaron Wachholz
Marquette County Farm Bureau President

Hello, Farm Bureau Friends.
Spring work is in full swing. Planters are moving, tillers are turning and manure spreaders are applying that good stuff to the land. We experienced early warm temperatures and rain in March and cold

temperatures and little to no precipitation in April, so as I write this, it is dry. Yet spring is naturally a season of hope and fresh starts. The good Lord willing, we will soon see some rain, especially for high sandy ground, and 2021 will be a better and more profitable year.

Commodity prices continue to rally each day, and I hope you can take advantage of them by securing a profitable price for your crops this fall.

As we continue to recover from COVID-19, it is encouraging to see people moving about more, larger gatherings starting to materialize and somewhat normal routines and activities returning.

Our Farm Bureau Dairy Committee is planning two on-farm dairy promotions at two state-of-the-art dairy farms in Marquette County. I encourage you to support our county's dairy industry by attending our 'Delicious Dairy Duo' from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on **Sunday, June 13.**

Participants will start at So-Fine Bovine, of Westfield, for the 'So-Fine' grilled cheese and then continue to Slowey Farms for a 'Sundae at Slowey's.'

The Marquette County Fair also is being planned for **July 8-11**, and with no special limitations or conditions. Come see the best of Marquette County and help recognize the youth of our county and their work as they showcase their animals and projects in-person.

Lastly, let us get out and about and have some fun. It is exciting once again to see events being planned and opportunities arising to be involved in our county and communities. I hope to see you at Farm Bureau events and again witness joy in your smiles and light in your eyes. Stand tall, stand firm and be proud to farm, be Farm Bureau proud.

God be with you and be safe in His care. Happy planting.

Thank You Farmers

Marquette County Farm Bureau celebrated National Ag Day in partnership with UW-Madison Extension, Marquette County, 4-H and local businesses.

Thirty goodie bags were put together and delivered to local farmers including Christmas tree and dairy farms, and vegetable, grain and livestock producers. Many of the farmers were found either heading to the field or doing chores. The Marquette County Farm Bureau donated Kwik Trip gift cards for each of the goodie bags, and 4-H members delivered the bags to area farmers.



To celebrate National Ag Day Marquette County 4-H member **Alicia Small (left)** gave a care package to local farmer **Richard Gumz.**



Celebrate June Dairy Month

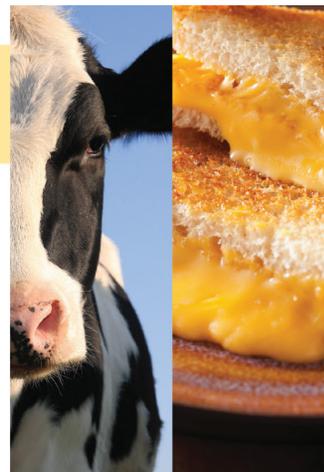
Sunday, June 13
10 am - 1 pm

STOP 1: So-Fine Grilled Cheese
W7560 Ember Avenue
Westfield, WI 53964

STOP 2: "Sundae" at Slowey Farms
N5339 County Road A
Westfield, WI 53964

Cost: \$3/person
Includes grilled cheese meal
(2 sandwiches, chips and milk)
and an ice cream sundae.

Drive thru tours held at both farms.
Please remain in vehicle.



To RSVP email marquettecountyfarmbureau@gmail.com or
For more information call Vicky Wachholz at 608.369.2644

Gavinski Wins County Ag in the Classroom Essay Contest

Owen Gavinski, a fourth grade student at Neenah Creek Elementary School in Briggsville, was the winner of the Marquette County essay contest.

Owen's winning essay.

How Have Wisconsin Soybean Farmers Fueled Wisconsin's Economy?

Wisconsin soybean farmers fuel Wisconsin's economy by shipping them to other countries. We sell soybean products to stores, and soybeans make fuel, clothing, food and so much more. For example, we ship soybeans to other countries in ships called barges. Each barge can hold up to 850,000 beans. We sell soybean products like clothes, fuel, and good to stores like Walmart. Soybeans can make so much of what you might see everyday like clothes, fuel, food and even care. Soybeans make up to 885 million dollars every year. Soybeans are important because they help Wisconsin's economy. I also think soybeans are important because they make so much of the things we see every day. This is why I think soybeans are important to Wisconsin's economy.



Schwochert Wins County Farm Bureau Scholarship



Dillan Schwochert, son of Heather and Kurt Schwochert was the winner of the Marquette County Farm Bureau Scholarship. Schwochert is a senior at Montello High school. He participated in 4-H and FFA for the past six year. This fall, he plans to attend Fox Valley Tech in Appleton to study animal science. His goal after college is to find a job in the agriculture field along with owning his own farm.



Plan to attend the Marquette County Fair on **July 8-11** and stop at the Farm Bureau food stand to enjoy some great food.

Waushara County



Message From The President



Mike Leahy

Waushara County Farm Bureau President

I wanted to give you a quick update on what has been going on in the county over the past few months.

We had a productive Ag Day at the Capitol. Waushara County members along with members from Waupaca County meet with Representative Kevin Peterson (R-Waupaca) and Senator Joan Ballweg

(R-Markesan). Here are a few highlights.

- Truth in Labeling Bills: Has assembly support (already passed) the senate has failed to schedule any of the bills yet. Senator Ballweg suggests contacting your senator and asking them to pressure the Senate President to add them to the senate schedule.
- Assemblyman Peterson would like to increase the Broadband Expansion Program. Considering asking for \$1 billion over the next two years. Create a public/private partnership to complete the expansion. The goal is to have 97 percent of the state covered by the end of the program. Said the first customers using 'starlink' in northern Wisconsin are seeing speeds of 140mb for approximately \$90 per month.
- Senator Ballweg's Ag Committee held a hearing on March 31 on the state of the Meat Packing infrastructure in Wisconsin. Stakeholders from across the sector-processors, customers and university staff/instructors will be represented. Her goal is to determine if the current issues in local meat packaging is a short-term or long-term problem. University staff have shared that they are struggling to fill classrooms as demand to learn these trades are minimal at best.
- NR151 Senator Ballweg reinforced that any draft the DNR does finalize on NR 151 has some legislative oversight. She also stressed the importance of voicing any concerns right now during the open comment period.

The DNR, in collaboration with the Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey (WGNHS), United States Geological Survey (USGS) and the UW System, completed the Central Sands Lakes Study. The key findings are that groundwater withdrawals cause reductions in Pleasant, Long and Plainfield Lakes. The reductions are significant and impact the lakes' ecosystems in Long and Plainfield Lakes. The DNR recommends a regional framework, such as a water use district, to implement measures to reduce significant impacts from groundwater withdrawals.

Be assured that your board of directors along with the state government relations and local affairs staff will continue to be on top of the continual developments during the summer.

I want to congratulate Elli Rettler of Tri-County Elementary School for submitting the winning Ag in the Classroom essay. Her 'Sassy Soybean' essay was derived from reading this year's Ag in the Classrooms book, "Full of Beans: Henry Ford Grows a Car" by Peggy Thomas and illustrated by Ed Fotheringham. Her essay was chosen from the essays submitted from the entire district. Well done, Elli.

Happy planting everyone.

Olsen Wins County Scholarships



Catelyn 'Catie' Olsen, daughter of David and Becky Olsen of Berlin is the recipient of the \$500 Jim and Charlotte Bleskey and the \$500 Gordon Krentz Memorial scholarships. Catie graduated from Berlin High School and this fall, plans to attend Ripon College to major in early-childhood education. She plans to complete post-graduate work with an emphasis on learning techniques for special needs children.



Plan to attend the Waushara County Fair on **Aug. 19-21** and stop at the Farm Bureau food stand to enjoy some great food.



AUGUST 2021

Farm Safety & Equipment Operation

Class #50273 for ages 12 & older

August 2 - August 6

Monday - Thursday 9:00am - 3:30pm

Friday 9:00am - 12:00pm

CLASS HELD AT WAUTOMA REGIONAL CENTER

Course Fee
\$174.70
\$100.00 Scholarship
Available



The Youth Certificate Program

Trains students how to operate a tractor over 20 PTO horsepower, including how to connect and disconnect equipment or equipment parts. Other topics include specialized machinery for livestock, toxic environments, agricultural chemicals, blasting, fertilizer and the youth certificate program

ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY AT ALL SESSIONS.

A PARENT OR GUARDIAN MUST ACCOMPANY HIS/HER CHILD TO THE FIRST HOUR OF THE FIRST CLASS.

See other side

Class Registration Form

Class #50273

Attendance is mandatory at all training sessions.
(please print)

Name _____

First M. I Last

Address _____

Phone _____

Birth Date ____ / ____ / ____

Month Day Year

Current Grade in School _____

Social Security No: _____

Mail this form to:

Fox Valley Technical College
PO Box 650
Wautoma, WI 54982

Or register online at www.fvtc.edu/takeaclass
REGISTRATION FEE: \$174.70
Payment required by July 23, 2021

Make checks payable to:
Fox Valley Technical College
 This one-credit course may be used as an elective in future educational options.

Registration deadline: July 23rd
or when the class is full.

Don't delay—call today!

What are the Laws?

Tractor and Machinery Certification is mandated by Federal legislation for any youth 14-15 years old working on a farm not owned or operated by the youth's parents or legal guardians and who are operating tractors over 20 PTO horsepower and/or certain farm equipment.

In Wisconsin, farm youth under the age of 16 are prohibited from operating agricultural machinery on public roads unless they have completed a Tractor and Machinery Certification Course. A law signed by the Governor in 1998 sets a lower age limit for youth 12 years of age to become certified in tractor and machinery operation.

Health Safety

Fox Valley Technical College has arranged classrooms to allow adequate social distancing for the safety of all students and staff.

Masks are required at all times while on campus.

Scholarships Available

- When you register for this class, you will receive a confirmation e-mail that will include a link to the scholarship application.
- A \$100 scholarship is available for middle and high school students who take this class. Click the link and complete the



 Fox Valley TECHNICAL COLLEGE <i>Knowledge That Works</i>  www.facebook.com/FVTCWautoma	Wautoma Regional Center 556 S. Cambridge Street P.O. Box 650 Wautoma, WI 54982 www.fvtc.edu/wautoma	To Register Call: 920.787.3319 or 800.892.2077 Online: www.fvtc.edu/WautomaClasses Email: WautomaCenter@fvtc.edu
---	--	---

The Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCSS) Board and Fox Valley Technical College Board officially set program fees. Fees are subject to change without notice.

Rettler Is County and District Essay Contest Winner

Elli Rettler, a fourth-grade student from Tri-County Elementary School in Plainfield was the Waushara County and District 5 essay contest winner.

Elli's award-winning essay.

Congratulations

Elli Rettler

District 5

Ag in the Classroom Essay Winner



Sassy Soybean Fuels Wisconsin's Economy and Beyond

Hi! I'm Miss Sassy Soybean Seed. I am a single bean among approximately 100 million bushels of soybeans harvested in Wisconsin each year!

Like many of my relatives and friends, I know my potential! We soybeans (and our ancestors) start out with stored energy in our protective seed coat, and in a large bag. From there, some awesome farmer buys us, plants us, harvests us and sells us. With just that much, we've already fueled Wisconsin's economy.

But think about the people we keep busy! There is the soybean seed salesperson, the office worker who keeps orders straight, orders more seed and keeps track of the bills and payment, the warehouse people who unload and load the seed, the trucker who delivers the seed, the fuel man and mechanic who keeps trucks running, and the farmer. All these people earn money and spend money! That is fueling Wisconsin!

Our jobs as seeds have only started, and whether we stay in Wisconsin or move across the ocean, we are in high demand. Some of us are used in making in, crayons, oils, tofu, biodiesel fuel, animal food, milk, tires, and many other products. Can you imagine all the jobs that are part of making, selling, and using these products? One use that surprised me is that more than 90 percent of American's dairy newspapers use soy ink. Now, that is a lot of reading!

Henry Ford certainly was not "full of beans" in his thinking and inventing. Almost a century ago, he knew we soybeans were special, and he proved it. Researchers are still proving we have even more potential. I am very proud of what we soybeans do. I love helping Wisconsinites and people around the world, sassy or not!

Dairy Promotion Committee Update

By Dan Hinz, Dairy Promotion Chair

June Dairy Month is approaching, and many of you want to know what is doing to go on this year in Winnebago County for dairy promotion.

We enjoy getting people out to local dairy farms to see what dairy farms are like and to celebrate June dairy Month with our friends and neighbors.

In Wisconsin, we dream in cheese. Here are a few details for our plans for June Dairy Month.

The county dairy promotion committee will be organizing games, activities, and giveaways before the Udder Tuggers, Wisconsin Timber Rattlers, baseball game on **Friday, June 4**. The game starts at 7 p.m.



We are sorry to say we will not be doing a breakfast on the farm this year for several reasons. When COVID-19 hit, we made a quick decision and created an event that required a few volunteers, was quick and easy to do and still able to do dairy promotion and education. We had a lot of fun last year doing two grilled cheese drive-thru events and two different farms.

This year we will again be doing a grilled cheese event. It will be held at Schuster Dairy at 1561 Koro Road, Berlin, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on **Saturday, June 12**. The event will be FREE, but donations accepted. Watch our Facebook page, Winnebago County Dairy Promotion, on how to register for the event.

The Schuster family will open their farm to families to get a view of their cows and leave you satisfied with a grilled cheese meal.

Beef Promo Event a Success



On May 8, the Winnebago County Farm Bureau conducted a drive-by steak event at Beck's Meat in Oshkosh.

Trezevant Wins County Essay Contest

Olivia Trezevant a fourth-grade student at Omro Elementary was the county essay contest winner. The county received 148 essays. Congratulations, Olivia.

Olivia's winning essay.

Soybeans and How They Have Fueled Wisconsin's Economy

Do you know what crayons and vegetable oil and school bus fuel have in common? They all are made from soybeans! Since soybeans are in all kinds of things, all the money made from selling those things has helped the economy. There are also a lot more jobs people need to fill because of soybeans. Soybeans have been helping to fuel the Wisconsin economy for years!

One way soybeans have boosted the Wisconsin economy is by providing jobs. For example, we need more farmers to plant and harvest them. We also need more truck drivers to deliver them. Additionally, we need people to work in the factories that process soybeans. All these jobs are helping boost the economy. That is a lot of jobs, all because of soybeans!

Another way soybeans boost the Wisconsin economy is from the money earned from selling the products soybeans are in. For instance, soybeans are used to make biodiesel. Specifically, this is the fuel that goes into vehicles like school buses. Biodiesel is non-toxic, renewable, and friendly to the environment. Also, if you eat school lunches you are eating pasta that is made from soy. Do you ever help your parents make brownies? Brownies use the ingredient. Even crayons are made from soybeans. One acre of soybeans can make 82,000 crayons! When all these products are sold that means more money for the economy.

In conclusion, soybeans are found in so many different products. From biodiesel to crayons to vegetable oil, soybeans are everywhere. Since soybeans are everywhere there are so many more jobs that are created because of soybeans. Providing more jobs and earning money from selling product that are made from soybeans two of the many reasons' soybeans have been fueling and continue to fuel the Wisconsin economy.

Beef Month Trivia, from page 1

May Is Beef Month Trivia Question Answers

Nine states have more cattle than people.

Rank	State	Human	Cattle	Ratio
1	South Dakota	844,877	3,650,000	4.32
2	Nebraska	1,868,516	6,150,000	3.29
3	Montana	1,015,165	2,550,000	2.51
4	North Dakota	723,393	1,770,000	2.45
5	Wyoming	582,658	1,270,000	2.18
6	Kansas	2,893,957	5,800,000	2.00
7	Idaho	1,612,136	2,190,000	1.36
8	Iowa	3,090,416	3,700,000	1.20
9	Oklahoma	3,850,568	4,300,000	1.12

Source: beef2live.com.

**This Issue Contains
Highlights for:**

Adams County

Fond du Lac County

Green Lake County

Juneau County

Marquette County

Waushara County

Winnebago County

GROWING FARM SAFETY TRADITIONS

Rural Mutual has been protecting farms across Wisconsin for over 85 years. We believe in protecting the families and children in our farming communities through farm safety initiatives.

Visit RuralMutual.com to find safety resources, learn about insurance trends, request a quote and find a local agent.

