



Grassroots

District 5 News

Technology Drives Sustainability

Rachel Gerbitz

Director of Sustainability Communications and Partnerships

The motto 'Farming for the Future' and term 'sustainability' go hand-in-hand. At Heartland Farms, owners Jeremie and Alicia Pavelski are living out that motto with a commitment to energy efficiency and overall sustainability across the entire farm.

Heartland Farms is a fifth-generation family farm specializing in potatoes, sweet corn, canning peas and green beans. They manage 24,000 irrigated acres spread across five counties in central Wisconsin. The farm began with 80 acres in 1873, and those original acres are still farmed today.

As one of the nation's premier suppliers of chipping potatoes, Heartland Farms has storage facilities with the capacity for more than a one-half billion pounds of potatoes.

Heartland Farms provides chipping potatoes for Frito Lay and exemplifies the company's commitment to 100 percent sustainably sourced corn and potatoes. The storage facilities at Heartland have revolutionized the chipping potato industry through development of new agronomic and storage protocols for Frito Lay varieties. Potato storage management is key to delivering a high-quality product throughout the entire year.

Among the impressive line-up of core values at Heartland Farms is the initiative to "Lead the way to promote and practice sustainable farming."

"We want to make the land better and more productive next year, the following year and 100 years from now," said Jeremie. "They aren't making any more soil, so we need to be taking care of what we have."

Heartland Farms is home to more than 100 center pivot irrigation systems and uses advanced technology to control irrigation systems remotely from a smartphone or tablet. Proper irrigation is vital for

maintaining yield and quality of a crop highly sensitive to stress from Mother Nature.

One example of the farm's advanced irrigation technology is automatic rain gauges on the irrigation systems. The gauge measures rainfall and automatically shuts down the system when the crop has enough water to meet its needs. This helps the team respond two hours faster to rainfall events, saving 36 million gallons of water each time. Automatic rain gauges have a ripple effect of benefits, from cutting back on miles traveled to irrigation units, to improved response time by team members, to efficient utilization of inputs.

"We have developed this team that is an amazing mix of old school knowledge and new, tech-savvy members," Jeremie said. "Across the board, we really are a group of geeks: soil geeks, engineer geeks, irrigation geeks. Knowledge is power here."

Advanced technology helps set teammates up for success. Modern, comfortable, safe and reliable vehicles are a win-win for Heartland and the environment. Utilizing technology lowers miles traveled per potato produced, promotes fuel efficiency and helps Heartland recruit and maintain team members.

Heartland Farms' LED replacement project has offered huge energy savings. By replacing all the lights in their buildings with LED lights, Heartland Farms has seen a reduction in both energy costs and usage. Frito Lay stands behind this commitment to energy savings by also utilizing 100% LED lighting in their manufacturing facilities.

The team at Heartland Farms is always looking at what they can do to be better for themselves, their communities and their customers.

"At the end of the day, our goal is to be the best neighbor we can be," Jeremie said.

There are always new technologies to incorporate, but sustainability has been at the core of Heartland Farms from the very beginning.



District Director Report



Kevin Krentz

WFBF District 5 Director and President

It has been an eventful summer.

Many counties were busy planning and holding county fairs. County Farm Bureaus around the state held very successful food stands as people were looking for

things to do.

Many fairs had higher attendance, which led to profitable food stands. Fairs are the capstone for 4-H kids who have worked hard on projects. Thank you to the parents and volunteers who helped make that possible. 4-H gives lifelong skills not only in farming but in work ethic, responsibilities and leadership.

Ethics, responsibilities and leadership also were highlighted in the WFBF Leaders of the Land Sustainability Series we hosted this summer. We toured nine farms around the state. We toured large and small farms with the diversity that represents our members. We toured everything from dairy to cranberries and highlighted on farm practices from cover crops to composting.

It really showed how farmers work hard every day to protect the natural resources around us. And it is not one size fits all, or one farm practice fits all farms. These farms showed diversity in sustainable environmental practices that were financially sound.

Through our strategic planning process, our members asked WFBF to be a bigger part of the sustainability discussion. And that discussion needs to start on the farm. Putting a face to a decision of protecting the water, soil and air for our own families and communities. It is clear advocating for agriculture is much more than lobbying.

But lobbying has been and always will be the focus of our organization. I'm happy to announce an addition to our lobby team. Keith Ripp joins the team as Executive Director of Government Relations. Keith is a farmer near Lodi. He served as a state legislator and as Assistant Deputy Secretary of Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. Keith brings a wealth of knowledge on state issues along with a passion to proactively work with members, providing resources to support them advocating locally. Please welcome Keith and support him as he navigates the on boarding into Farm Bureau.

Following a year in which COVID disrupted everything, Wisconsin Farm Bureau also plans to hold an in-person annual meeting this year. We will be back at the Kalahari Resorts and Conventions in Wisconsin Dells. Much of it will be getting 'back to normal' but we also will provide the ability for people who need or want to socially distance. I as well as many of you look forward to meeting our Farm Bureau family in person again. God bless.

County Farm Bureaus Receive County All Star Awards



Two District 5 County Farm Bureaus will receive a County All Star Award. Congratulations to the Adams County and Winnebago County Farm Bureaus.

Adams County, Other category: Tractor Safety and Slow-Moving Vehicle Sign Sponsorship.

Winnebago County: Consumer Outreach category: Porktober and the Drive Thru Steak Fry Promotion.



Ag in the Classroom Essay Contest Information

Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom offers an annual essay contest for fourth and fifth-grade students.

Each year the topic has specific lesson plans, activities, and other resources that teachers, volunteers and homeschool parents can use to teach about Wisconsin agriculture. The topic is selected after the book of the year is picked. The 2022 Book of the Year is "Popcorn Country" by Wisconsin author and dairy farmer, Cris Peterson.

This year's essay contest topic is, 'What's Popping in Wisconsin? The value of corn to our economy!'

Essay submissions must be 100- to 300-words in length and will be judged on content, grammar, spelling and neatness. This year students must make three references to Wisconsin agriculture and a new essay grading rubric was developed. The essay contest rules, lesson plans and sample classroom activities are available on the Ag in the Classroom website. Essays are due **April 1, 2022.**

For more information, please contact your county Ag in the Classroom Essay Contest coordinator.

Adams County: Kay Olson, 608.572.1429

Fond du Lac County: Mary Runge, 920.960.3176 or Kelly Pollack, 608.333.1427

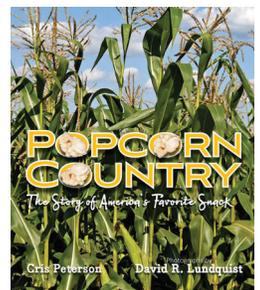
Green Lake County: Linda Swanke, 920.299.6027

Juneau County: Tonra Degner, 608.553.1256

Marquette County: Victoria Wachholz, 608.369.2644

Waushara County: Lynn Leahy, 608.558.9713

Winnebago County: Rebecca Poppy, 920.312.0970



District 5 Coordinator Report



Becky Hibicki

District 5 Coordinator

During the end of August until mid-October, District 5 County Farm Bureaus held county annual meetings.

This is always my favorite time of year. Even though it is a super busy time preparing for county annual meetings, I enjoy attending the seven county annual meetings.

The highlight for me is seeing our 'grassroots' in action. County Farm Bureaus meet and develop county resolutions, which are voted on and approved at the county annual meeting. Counties also elect members to serve as delegates to the state annual meeting. The approved county resolutions, and the elected delegates that will be representing your county Farm Bureau at the WFBF Annual Meeting, which will be held **Dec. 4-6** in Wisconsin Dells.

County Resolutions and County Delegates

Adams County Annual Meeting held Oct. 10.

Delegates: Jean Bartz, Jeff Huber and Kay Olson.

No resolutions submitted.

Waushara County Annual Meeting held Aug. 30

Delegates: Mike Leahy and Paul Jarvis

State

1. We support utility-scale solar projects to be built on our least productive farmland and away from important wildlife habitat.
2. We support all members of the food supply chain to be deemed "essential" during all declarations of a State of Emergency and/or Public Health Emergency.

Internal

3. We support an auto-renewal program for membership.

Winnebago County Annual Meeting held Sept. 9

Delegates: Rob Stone, Charlie Knigge and Linda Mullins

State

1. We support a farmer's right, in consultation with their veterinarians, to set appropriate protocol for common animal practices, such as artificial insemination, to be administered by the farmer or trained employee that are appropriate for their farm.

Internal

2. WFBF should set up auto-renewal for annual membership fees.

Green Lake County Annual Meeting held Sept. 14

Delegates: Pete Badtke, Jim Hebbe and Dave Wilke

State

1. We support ambulance districts be levy limit exempt rather than current state law that county run ambulance services are levy limit exempt.
2. We support certified private sector professionals to be allowed to assist the DNR by providing the on-site and written reviews necessary to meet DNR requirements.
3. We support renewal energy equipment, such as solar farms and wind turbines, being made from materials that are recyclable.
4. We support research to develop more efficient ways to recycle solar panel and wind turbine materials.
5. We support a farmer's right, in consultation with their veterinarians, to set appropriate protocol for common animal practices, such as artificial insemination, to be administered by the farmer or trained employee

that are appropriate for their farm.

6. We oppose businesses automatically eliminating paper billing statements and/ or implementing surchargers to obtain them.

Marquette County Annual Meeting held Sept. 17

Delegates: Aaron Wachholz and Amanda Knoch

State

1. We support utility-scale solar projects to be built on our least productive farmland and away from important wildlife habitat.
2. We support a farmer's right, in consultation with their veterinarians, to set appropriate protocol for common animal practices, such as artificial insemination, to be administered by the farmer or trained employee that are appropriate for their farm.
3. When deer management unit are above their overwinter goal, we support instituting an earn-a-buck season or any other program with incentives to reduce the deer herd, and an antlerless only season until the deer herd has been reduced to a manageable level.
4. We support increasing the allowable animal units on small acreage recreational zoned land to be increased to 2.5 animal units on less than 5 acres.

Fond du Lac County Annual Meeting held Sept. 20

Delegates: Reuben Hopp, Roger Grade, Chris Pollack, John Ruedinger, Dale Theel, Jim Kelroy, Earl Sipple, Janet Clark and Steve Sabel

State

1. We support certified private sector professionals to be allowed to assist the DNR by providing the on-site and written reviews necessary to meet DNR requirements.

Internal

1. WFBF should set up auto-renewal for annual membership fees.
2. WFBF should develop a three- or five-year discounted membership dues program.
3. WFBF should develop a phone app that would focus on member benefits.
4. WFBF should develop a mass text program to notify members of upcoming events and activities.

Juneau County Annual Meeting held Sept. 30

Delegates: Kip Weber and Brian Bires

State

1. We support renewal energy equipment, such as solar farms and wind turbines, being made from materials that are recyclable.
2. We support broadband communications being extended to everyone who has electrical service in rural areas, so no one is excluded from receiving broadband.
3. We support a farmer's right, in consultation with their veterinarians, to set appropriate protocol for common animal practices, such as artificial insemination, to be administered by the farmer or trained employee that are appropriate for their farm.
4. We support the USDA treating all farmers equally and not to discriminate anyone based on race to qualify for loan forgiveness programs.

Internal

1. We support an auto renewal program for Farm Bureau membership.

If you want to be apart of the county policy development and resolutions, please contact your county president to see how you can get involved. Also, mark your calendar and plan to attend Ag Day at the Capitol, **Jan. 26, 2022.**

Counties Reach Membership Goals

The WFBF membership year is from Oct. 1 to Sept. 30.

Congratulations to the following counties: Adams, Marquette and Green Lake counties made both a voting and total gain in membership. Winnebago County made a voting gain in membership and Waushara

County made a total gain in membership.

For more information on Farm Bureau membership benefits or to renew your membership, visit wfbf.com/membership.

QUEST FOR MEMBERSHIP Arrgh you ready?



Sign one new member by the WFBF Annual Meeting to pull a gift from the treasure chest.

Membership applications must be received at the WFBF home office by December 1 or you can bring them to the membership booth in the Tradeshow at the WFBF Annual Meeting.



The first three counties in the state to reach their early bird bonus will get 2 extra shipmates at an event of their choice.

WFBF home office staff will volunteer at a Farm Bureau event of the counties choice. Each staff person will give 4 hours of time

The first county in each district to reach their early bird bonus will receive a pizza party or ice cream sundaes at a county meeting.



Sign 3 new members by the IGNITE Conference (March 25) to pull a gift from the treasure chest.

Must be present at the IGNITE Conference to win



Sail with us to San Juan! Sign 12 new members by September 30 for an entry to win a trip for 2 to the 2023 AFBF Convention in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

We treasure our members. Thank you for your membership!



District 5 YFA Update



Collin Bays of Adams County and Natasha Paris of Green Lake County competed in the District 5 Discussion Meet on Aug. 25 at Heartland Farms.

Both will compete in the YFA Discussion Meet held during the WFBF Annual Meeting and YFA Conference on Dec. 3-6 in Wisconsin Dells.

Save the Date: Feb. 13, 2022

District YFA Snow Tubing Event

Watch the next newsletter for more details.



Do you want to get involved in your county YFA program? Contact District YFA Chair Sara Menard at 318.572.9731 or county YFA chair.

Adams County: Jeff Huber, 608.369.2995

Fond du Lac County: Jenny Leahy, 920.979.3213

Green Lake County: Natasha Paris, 608.462.3387

Juneau County: Sally Turpin, 608.462.3387

Marquette County: Victoria Smith, 608.369.1486

Waushara County: Lynn Leahy, 608.558.9713

Winnebago County: Jaime Sawle, 608.370.2915

Meeting to Address the Issue of Limited Slaughter Capacity in the Area

On Tuesday, Dec. 14, UW-Madison Division of Extension will host an informational meeting for farmers interested in starting a cooperative to address the meat harvest plant shortage in the area.

If you are a livestock farmer, or someone who is concerned enough to take an active role in the food security of Green Lake and surrounding counties this meeting is for you.

The meeting will be at 7 p.m. at the Dalton Community Center, W6368 Pine Street, Dalton.

Speakers include Andy Larson from the UW Food Finance Institute, Jeff Swenson from DATCP and Kelly Maynard from The UW Center for Cooperatives.

The meeting is being held to inform those wishing to form a cooperative to address the shortage of custom slaughter facilities in the area on how to start the process of building a successful harvest plant business.

For more information contact Ben Jenkins, Extension Ag Educator at 920.294.4037.



The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation invites you to attend



Wednesday, January 26, 2022

Monona Terrace Convention Center • Madison

Early Registration Deadline: January 19

Cost: \$30 per person by registration deadline.

\$60 after deadline and at the door.

Tentative Schedule of Events:

11:00 a.m. Registration

11:30 a.m. Opening Program

12:15 a.m. Lunch

1:00 p.m. Legislative Briefing

3:00 p.m. Leave for Capitol Visits

Presented by:  Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

Thank You to Our Sponsors:

 Rural Mutual Insurance Company

 GROWMARK

Due to Dane County ordinances for COVID-19 mitigation, masks and other provisions may be required for this event and details are subject to change.

District 5 News

Celebrating Farm Bureau Membership During County Annual Meetings



Adams County

wfbf.com/about/counties/adams
AdamsCountyFarmBureau

A Message From The President



Kay Olson

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.

As of March 30, we also made our

new voting goal so that portion of membership has come to an end. Each year we need to get 20 new members. Because we met that goal our Farm Bureau will get \$1,000 bonus from WFBF.

We also made our goal of retaining our current members by the end of September. I ask that when you get your dues statement to send it back in as soon as you get it. Remember, your dues for Adams County are \$50, and if you choose you can voluntarily contribute more

if you wish. Our Farm Bureau gets \$1 back from each membership and that is what we operate our programs with.

The Ag in the Classroom committee looks forward to being

invited back in the classrooms this year. We miss teaching the students, but we do understand the restrictions due to the COVID pandemic.

We sponsored the prizes for the Land and Water Conservation poster contest. Each winner received an art kit.

We also sponsored several FFA and UWEX events such as Tractor Safety by giving the 17 kids a slow-moving vehicle sign.

We supported the 4-H and FFA members at the county fair. We opened our ice cream booth



at the fair and want to make sure we thank the volunteers.

We supported community events such as the Gunderson Memorial Hospital Fundraiser.

So, when I say it feels like an end to our year you can see why. September is what WFBF considers the end of our year. I have touched on a few things that we have done and accomplished with the help of your membership dollars. Thank you for helping us provide these programs to our youth and organizations.

A Message From The President



Reuben Hopp

Fond du Lac County Farm Bureau President

As we start a new Farm Bureau year, I would like to give an update on everything that has happened in the last year.

Last year the WFBF Annual Meeting was held virtually. Although we all would have preferred to meet in person, I'm thankful we had the virtual option to meet.

We had nine delegates attend the virtual WFBF Annual Meeting last December. We

met as a group at John Ruedinger's farm office. Throughout the year we held many of our board meetings at John's farm. Thank you to John for opening his farm for us to meet at.

Throughout the year we made several donations, which included: to the Salvation Army at Christmas time, the Holyland Food Pantry, Agribusiness Council for the dairy breakfast, fair for ribbon premiums and provided dairy products at local blood drives.

This spring we awarded two \$1,000 scholarships to Macenzie Powers of Ripon and Nate Abel of Eden.

Our Ag in the Classroom continued to be active, even during the pandemic. The committee donated 40 copies of the Ag in the Classroom book of the year to several area schools and once again promoted the essay contest for fourth- and fifth-grade students.

Kelly Pollack also organized a promotion and education activity in June to celebrate June Dairy Month. The first boy and girl born in June at two area hospitals were mailed a gift that included the book, "Cows Can Moo, Can You?" and a gift certificate to Poco Pizza.

Our YFA chair Jenny Leahy organized a booth at the Alto Fair, and the YFA float was donated to a local 4-H club to use.

We were excited we were able to conduct our Country Café fair food stand this year, after deciding not to in 2020. It is by far our largest fundraiser. We continue make capital improvements to the building.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered at the fair food stand, and a special thank you to our Country Café committee: Roger Grade, Sarah Breuer, Mary Runge and Steve Sabel.

As Trayton Greenfield mentioned, despite of COVID, the county had an extremely successful membership year. We reached our new voting goal of signing 45 new voting members by the end of March and received a \$1,500 membership bonus.

A special thank you to Trayton for his continued work and commitment to membership. This year we had three members sign at least five new voting members and they will be recognized as part of the Farm Bureau Proud Club: Trayton Greenfield, Steve Sabel and myself.

This year our biggest highlight was finally being able to celebrate our Centennial. The Fond du Lac County Farm Bureau should have celebrated its Centennial in 2020. I had appointed a Centennial committee that met once before the start of pandemic.

We originally had plans to have a large celebration in 2020 but were not able to. The committee met earlier this year and decided to go ahead with a Centennial celebration in 2021. The committee met several times throughout the year to plan the event.

The event was held Aug. 28 at Taylor Park in Fond du Lac. More than 80 people attended. Our featured speaker for the event was AFBF Vice President Scott VanderWal from South Dakota. The event was a success and I want to thank those who attended.

At this year's county annual meeting long time board member Dale Theel decided to step down from the board. Thank you to Dale for his 40 years of service on the board.

Also, congratulations to Ray Halbur and Christine Duscheck who were newly elected to serve on the board.

I also want to thank our board of directors. It is a pleasure to serve as your county president when I have a great group of dedicated board of directors. Also, thank you to our District Coordinator Becky Hibicki.

And of course, I want to thank you for your membership and support of the Fond du Lac County Farm Bureau.

Here is to another successful Farm Bureau in 2022.



Senator Dan Feyen (left; R-Fond du Lac) and Rep. Jeremy Theisfeldt (R-Fond du Lac) present Fond du Lac County Farm Bureau president a plaque in honor of the county's Centennial.



Congressman Glenn Grothman (WI-06) presented a plaque to the county in honor of the county's Centennial; (from left): WFBF Board President Kevin Krentz, Congressman Glenn Grothman, Fond du Lac County Farm Bureau President Reuben Hopp, Former WFBF and Fond du Lac County Farm Bureau President Bill Bruins and AFBF Vice President Scott VanderWal.



A Message From The President



Peter Badtke

Green Lake County Farm Bureau
President

Hello, Green Lake County Farm Bureau member.

Hopefully by now most everyone has their crops harvested, and fall fieldwork completed. Just a quick Green Lake County Farm Bureau update on a few events.

On Aug. 1, we held our third annual members picnic with around 45 people attending. We had a nice pork dinner with the fixings. Thanks to Insight FS for donating the pork for the picnic. After the meal, we had a drawing for door prizes donated by Gale Wiersma, our Rural Mutual Insurance agent. Thanks for the prizes, Gale.

Lastly, we had our famous cornhole tournament with new this year, trophies for the top three teams.

Our fair food stand was another success this year. Thanks to those who helped in any way with the food stand.

On Aug 21, we held our Land and Lake Family Field Day along with the Green Lake Association. We had presentations on cover crops, rotational grazing and creek and stream restoration.

About 145 people attend. With a no till equipment demonstration. If you missed the Land and Lake Field Day this year, plan on attending on Aug. 20, 2022. Green Lake County Farm Bureau is proud to be part of this great event bringing farmers and lake property owners together to share ideas to create healthier soils to a cleaner lake that we all love.

On Sept. 14 was our county annual meeting at the Farmview Event Barn in Berlin. Corey Geiger was our guest speaker. Corey is editor of Hoards Dairyman and has wrote several books about the history of his family farm including some great stories of neighboring farm families as well.



The county held a cornhole tournament at the summer picnic held on August 1. First Place Team: Danette and Pete Luedke, 2nd Place: Pete and Sarah Badtke, 3rd Place: Carolee and Jim Schultz)

Jim Hebbe, Dave Wilke and I were elected as delegates to represent Green Lake County Farm Bureau for the resolution session of the WFBF Annual Meeting this December.

Please take some time to review the county resolutions that are listed in the district section of the newsletter.

Thanks for your continued membership.

WFBF Leadership Institute Update



By Chad Bruss, WFBF Leadership Institute Participant

Since the last update, we met once in September, but here is a little about what we did.

We finally met for our first in-person session at the Kalahari Resorts and Conventions in the beginning of September.

This has been something I think us class members have been anxiously awaiting. It was great to meet everyone, and the social aspect of

this session made it that much more engaging.

This session focused on the policy side of Farm Bureau and the process of making a policy and approving it. We discussed the government relations part of Farm Bureau, and what the department does for its members. We did some in depth analysis of the policy process and the steps that take place. We also did presentations for our first time in front of the group and had a lot of good discussions on how to improve our public speaking skills.

The WFBF Leadership Institute is a year-long, premier leadership training course with the mission to develop strong and effective county Farm Bureau leaders.



Green Lake County board member Chad Bruss is one of 14 members participating in the WFBF Leadership Institute program.

Why participate?

- To develop and refine your follower and leader skills.
- To learn from experts, exchange ideas and gain confidence.
- To improve your communication and speaking skills.
- To learn how to craft an effective ag message and work with media.
- To develop friendships and find creative solutions to challenges through teamwork.
- To explore domestic and international agricultural issues.
- To join in the political process at the local, state and national levels.
- To create a written leadership plan for your personal development and the improvement of your county Farm Bureau.

Land and Lake Family Field Day, A Success

The 2021 Land and Lake Family Field Day was hosted by Lynne and Brad Goldsmith of Avalon Creek Farm in Markesan. The Field Day welcomed community members to talk about what we can do to improve Big Green's water quality. By bringing together farmers and shoreline owners and watershed residents, the Green Lake Association demonstrated the importance of how conservation practices on the land positively impact the lake, and how agricultural neighbors are caring for the land in a way that cares for the lake.

Educational sessions focused on managed grazing, cover crops, soil conservation and stream restoration. The day also offered kids' activities, in-field equipment demonstrations, a rainfall simulator, historic schoolhouse tours and book sales.





A Message From The President



Kip Webber

Juneau County Farm Bureau President

As I finish up my first year as your county Farm Bureau president, I want to reflect on some of the accomplishments of the Juneau County Farm Bureau during the last year.

Our biggest accomplishment is our county's involvement in the Ag in the Classroom essay contest. Despite the continued challenges of COVID, our county Ag in the Classroom coordinator Tonra Degner continued to contact teachers and promote the fourth- and fifth-grade essay contest.

This year the county received 150 essays. 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.

Essay winners were invited to attend the county annual meeting and read their essays, which is always a highlight of the annual meeting.

Also, at the county annual meeting we presented a plaque to the Richard 'Dick' Santas family in honor of the many years of service Dick gave to the Juneau County Farm Bureau. Dick was a Charter member of the Juneau County Farm Bureau in 1972 and served in leadership positions over the years.

I want to welcome new board members, Kelly Green and Amy VanderMark. Thank you for your membership and continued support.



Marquette County



A Message From The President



Aaron Wachholz

Marquette County Farm Bureau President

Hello, Marquette County.

Happy harvest season. Autumn is in the air. Driving around the county, harvest is well underway. The beautiful weather that God has given us has certainly been a blessing and a pleasure to work in. Please continue your work with joy and remember to work safely and to take time for your family.

Recently, I have had many conversations with farmers and ag-minded people. There seems to be a common theme coming up in these conversations, the state of our country. We in American agriculture have always been the trusted, steady and driving force in our country, but often are not as vocal as our non-farm contemporaries. Farmers are the silent, hard-working type, yet are often taken for granted. Farm Bureau unites those of us who come from all walks of agriculture and joins our voices to speak more boldly and effectively to our elected officials in Madison and Washington, D.C.

However, times have changed and so has our country. The people of agriculture I talk to share a very patriotic and genuine concerns over the direction our country is heading, and it's happening all too quickly. The 2020 election left an impression on Americans. Government spending and legislation leave many farmers wondering when this bad dream will end. Concerns over spiking input prices, supply chain disruptions and delays and the fear of an unknown future and how to plan for it are real. These concerns trouble farmers and while we cannot control them, they affect our livelihood.

However, trying to solve these problems on our own is neither healthy, beneficial or effective. Don't let problems eat away at you. Keep communication lines open. Talk it out with people you trust: your spouse, family and friends. Bring concerns to your county Farm Bureau or district director and communicate with elected officials to voice your concerns. A united voice speaks louder than an individual voice. Together we in agriculture have a better chance to affect change.

Above all, my friends, pray. There is One more we should all talk to. God is in control. He knows your needs and concerns. He promises provision, guidance and care. I do not know what the future may hold but we need not fear for God is with us and He solely holds and controls the future of our land. Happy harvest and God be praised.

Labor Day Ice Cream Promotion

The Marquette County Farm Bureau dairy promotion committee conducted an ice cream promotion on Labor Day weekend.

The county sponsored a discount on ice cream purchased at It's Poppin in Westfield and The Candy Store in Montello. More than 400 discounted ice cream cones were served.

The dairy promotion committee is starting to plan future dairy promotion events. If you want to be apart of this committee, please contact Victoria Wachholz at 608.369.2644.



Message From The President



Mike Leahy
Waushara County Farm
Bureau President

Happy fall.
As the leaves are
changing and
crops are being
harvested before

the snow begins to fly, I wanted to give you a quick update on what's been happening with your Waushara County Farm Bureau.

The county Farm Bureau had a really productive food stand at the county fair this

year. New food stand committee chairs Paul Jarvis and Kyle Thom did an outstanding job organizing and coordinating the operations of the food stand this year.

I also want to thank the volunteers. Without your dedication of time and talent, the stand wouldn't have been as successful as it was. Thank you.

The Waushara County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting was held on Aug. 30 at the fairgrounds. Thank you to our friends at Insight FS for donating and preparing the pork chops for the dinner.

During the meeting we reviewed and voted

on policy that we are now sending to be reviewed by the WFBF Policy Development Committee.

Another exciting development in the beginning stages. A small group of board members and some of our friends from Insight FS had the opportunity to meet with the Wautoma High School administration.

The effort, being headed up by Sara Stelter, is helping the district to incorporate more ag classes into the schools STEM curriculum. Good work, Sara

Stay safe and happy harvest.

Pine Breeze Dairy Tour

By Lynn Leahy, YFA Chair

Waushara County Farm Bureau took a tour of Pine Breeze Dairy, in eastern Waushara County on July 24.

Farm Bureau members learned about this 2,600-cow modern-day dairy farm. The tour was led by one of the site's farm managers. During the tour, the participants viewed the farm's double 35 parallel milking parlor, free stall barns and cow groups, feed bunkers, manure lagoons and sand separation system. At this farm, more than 25,000 gallons of milk are produced per day and shipped to Agropur in Weyauwega to be processed into cheese. There was ample time available to ask questions about many aspects of the Pine Breeze Dairy farm. A few of the questions asked and topics discussed were about the technology used for cow comfort, monitoring, and management, minimizing environmental impact and using land sustainability, proper nutrient and fertilizer applications and future plans and goals.

Thank you to Pine Breeze Dairy members for taking time to show us around their facilities and answer our questions about their dairy operation.



Winnebago County

Feeding America Project

By Kaylee Kriha, Berlin High School Graduate

Earlier this year, I took a class called social issues research where I had to find a social issue I was passionate about and educate, advocate and try to improve the issue.

After many weeks of research, I chose hunger. I looked into many different projects but helping a non-profit was the way to go. I decided I wanted to help Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin, since it is local.

I started a GoFundMe and asked local businesses. The Winnebago County Farm Bureau also gave me a donation. In total after about a month of fundraising, I raised \$2,000.

Earlier this year, I took the money to the center located in Appleton. I learned about different opportunities and how the operation works so close with the agriculture industry. After giving my check, I toured the facility and learned the entire process from farm to home.

Overall, the entire class taught me how important hunger is, how many it affects, and what we can do to improve it. It gave me real life experiences and allowed me to find something I am truly passionate about.



President's Report



Amanda Volp was elected as the Winnebago County Farm Bureau President. Amanda and her husband, Tyler, have two daughters, Kenzy and Raelyn

Amanda Volp

Winnebago County Farm Bureau President

Greetings, Winnebago County Farm Bureau member.

What a summer it has been. Attending in-person events and planning more activities sure has been a breath of fresh air. I want to introduce myself.

I grew up on my family's diversified livestock farm between Sauk City and Baraboo. I was heavily involved in 4-H and FFA, from speaking contests, horse judging, arts and crafts, which really challenged what little creativity I have, showing cattle and horses, to serving as officers with each program. Needless to say, I was

always busy, primarily doing activities in agriculture. I graduated from Sauk Prairie High School and earned a bachelor's degree in animal science with a chemistry minor from UW-River Falls.

Being a transplant from Sauk County, I have lived in Winnebago County for almost nine years. My husband Tyler and I have two beautiful daughters and reside west of Omro. I'm part owner and office manager/companion animal nutritionist for Doctor's Choice Supplements and my husband and I own a small trucking company along with cash cropping on the side.

I have served on the Winnebago County Farm Bureau board for the last seven years as a board member, YFA co-chair and vice president.

I graduated from the WFBF Leadership Institute and I'm grateful for the experience that the county so graciously gave me. I am honored to serve as the first woman Winnebago County Farm Bureau President, and I can't wait to see what the future has in store for us.

Updates from the county:

- June Dairy Month was a success with the promotional events both at the Udder Tuggers Wisconsin Timber Rattlers game in Appleton and our

- Drive-Thru Grilled Cheese event held at Schuster Dairy in Berlin.
- The Winnebago County Fair was back again in August in Oshkosh. Our Farm Bureau food stand did an outstanding job raising funds used for activities throughout the year. From new menu items to the famous roast beef sandwich, and hot ham and cheese, we had record sales. Thank you to the many members and non-members who volunteered time to help make it run smooth. A little rain couldn't stop us from having a good time.
- Our county annual meeting was held on Sept. 9 at Brighton Acres. With close to 50 people in attendance we updated members on events happening on the county and state levels, along with listening to local legislators.
- October Pork Month proved popular with our Pork Chop on a Stick with homemade applesauce, and hot ham and cheese sandwiches, that were served at Petals and Plows for two Saturdays in a row. We had a pork promotion raffle during the event for prizes that included a five-pound ham, two pork chop bundles, breakfast pork combo from Beck's Meats and free pumpkin and corn maze passes from Petals and Plows. Our goal in our beef and pork promotion events is to show the consumer that it is very affordable to eat real, nutritious and American raised beef and pork products so they can become a staple food choice. By offering good quality food products produced by farmers, prepared by farmers and served by local farmers, the public can meet and see exactly where their food comes from.
- Congratulations to the county on making a voting membership gain. It was truly a team effort. Your membership and renewal, or new memberships during the year continues to help the county fund our Ag in the Classroom program, donate to local 4-H and FFA groups and other community involvement.

Looking ahead, the WFBF Annual Meeting and YFA Conference will be held in Wisconsin Dells at the Kalahari Resorts and Conventions on Dec. 3-6.

Be sure to stay tuned to our Facebook page, Winnebago County Farm Bureau, for upcoming news and special events that will be taking place during the next several months.

I pray that the harvest season has been safe and bountiful for all and continues to be as we finish out the year. God bless.

Dairy Promotion Committee Update

By Dan Hinz, Dairy Promotion Chair

June Dairy Month was a fun time in Winnebago County.

The Schuster family on Koro Road hosted a grilled cheese drive-thru for us. It was a hot June day, but still almost 750 attendees came through the farmstead. They got to drive through the free stall barn and see the cows up close and we got a chance to promote dairy in our county.

After seeing much of the dairy operation, guests were given grilled cheese meals. These meals consisted of a grilled cheese sandwich, potato chips, chocolate milk and a cup of Leon's, Frozen Custard.

Thank you to Belgioioso Cheese, Agropur, Compeer Financial, Retzlaff Milk Transport, Dairy Farmers of Wisconsin and Leon's Frozen Custard for your donation to this fun event. Thank you to Jim and Kelly Schuster and Garrett and Kara Schuster and family for hosting the grilled cheese drive thru. The dairy promotion committee is looking into plans for 2022 June Dairy Month.

In August, we also celebrated National Ice Cream Month at Leon's Frozen Custard. We took two calves to Leon's and were giving away some

goodies as well as free custard. We also made a contest out of the day asking Facebook followers to name the two calves. The winning names selected were Milkshake and Brownie. After all, who doesn't like ice cream or custard?

October was Pork Month. The dairy promotion committee worked with the pork committee and did a dairy promotion with the pork event. Pork meals were created, and we helped sponsor some milk for the meals. Dairy promotion is year-round, educating consumers about Wisconsin's great dairy industry.



Alice in Dairyland with the Schuster family. The Schuster family hosted a drive thru grilled cheese event on their farm in June.)

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