



JUNE 2022

# Grassroots

District 5 News

## District Director Report

**Kevin Krentz**

District 5 Director and WFBF President

It is more important than ever before to get involved.

This spring three towns in northwest Wisconsin have adopted ordinances against animal agriculture. Ordinances that restrict size of farm, hours of operation and farming practices must not be allowed to stand, and Farm Bureau will help fight against. But it also highlights the importance of getting involved locally. Get to know your town and county officials along with inviting them to your farm. Explain the fiscal impact your farm has on your local communities. You also may find the passion to run for office yourself. We need more farmers and people with knowledge of agriculture serving on town and county boards.

We also need trained labor on our farms. In March, UW-Madison College of Agriculture and Life Science announced significant changes to the Farm & Industry Short Course Program. Farm Bureau led a coalition of agriculture groups to voice objections to many of the proposed changes. Throughout the year, we will work to advocate for a hands-on learning experience. Many FISC graduates agree in order to obtain a world class program, students must be immersed into college life and on campus research. Farm Bureau will continue to advocate for a program that not only meets the needs of agriculture but also allows students to thrive in their field of studies. Farm Bureau will continue to find new ways of carrying your message to consumers.

Recently, I attended the groundbreaking for the Food and Farming Exploration Center in Plover. When completed, the facility will be a destination of learning and engaging consumers of modern agricultural practices in the central sands region of Wisconsin. Rural Mutual Insurance and Wisconsin Farm Bureau are proud donors of the Exploration Center.

We also look forward to partnering on Ag in The Classroom activities and sustainability presentations. Promoting agriculture's rich history along with our diversity helps highlight our foundation of Wisconsin's economy.

As May is Beef Month many counties are hosting promotional beef activities. Moving through COVID, many counties found success in drive-through meals and continue to use this method for promotion. Thank you to those who continue to imagine new ways to promote agriculture and to everyone who participated in the Farm Neighbor Cares Program.

Helping neighbors with a meal or offering time for a conversation is great for the receiver and the giver. Taking care of our own physical and mental health is crucial. But it also is important to watch out for each other. Checking on one another and leaning on each other is critical in times of stress.

God bless and stay safe this growing season.

## District 5 Coordinator Report

**Becky Hibicki**

District 5 Coordinator

920.517.2445 or bhibicki@wfbf.com

Summer is a busy time for county Farm Bureaus. All the counties are involved in a variety of events during the summer.

County fair food stands are a major activity for the counties in District 5. These stands are the county's largest fundraiser of the year and help support youth with scholarships, Ag in the Classroom funding, commodity promotion events and other local events. It takes many volunteers to make sure a county fair food stand is successful.

As a member, I encourage you to consider helping in your county fair food stand. Even if it's a few hours, it will be greatly appreciated. "Many hands make the load light."

### County Fair Food Stand Contacts

**Adams County:** Kay Olson, 608.572.1429**Fond du Lac County:** Roger Grade, 920.948.0952**Green Lake County:** Steve Kutz, 920.229.9767**Juneau County:** Tonra Degner, 608.553.1256**Marquette County:** Vicky Wachholz, 608.369.2644**Waushara County:** Paul Jarvis, 920.229.0637**Winnebago County:** Russ Kriha

### District 5 County Fair Locations and Dates

**Marquette County:** Westfield, July 7-10**Fond du Lac County:** Fond du Lac, July 20-24**Green Lake County:** Green Lake, Aug. 4-7**Winnebago County:** Oshkosh, Aug. 3-7**Waushara County:** Wautoma, Aug. 18-21**Juneau County:** Mauston, Aug. 14-21**Adams County:** Friendship, Aug. 25-28

Hope to see YOU at  
the fairs!

# District 5 News

## District Promotion and Education Update



Lynn Leahy  
District 5 Promotion and Education Chair

Greetings.

From April 7-9, five members of the WFBF Promotion and Education Committee attended AFBF Target Training, an event organized every other year by the AFBF Promotion and Education Committee. This year, the national event was held in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and the target training topic was, 'Promoting Positive Perceptions.'

Target Training is a premier consumer engagement training for Farm Bureau members from any state who are passionate about sharing agriculture with the public. This event focuses on inspiring and equipping farmers and ranchers to successfully convey the significance of agriculture and bridge the gap between field and fork.

My fellow committee members and I connected with other Promotion and Education Committee members from across the country and heard from several great speakers who are incredibly knowledgeable on how to engage with our consumers.

We heard Ryan Goodman aka Beef Runner talk about how he strikes up conversations about agriculture with others while competing in ultra-marathons. Johnna Miller from AFBF helped us learn more about ourselves as agriculture advocates and leaders to help us be more effective in sharing our stories and knowledge.

On the last morning, we went through intensive training with Jordan Henry on planning our own events. WFBF Promotion and Education Committee members Brenda Dowiasch, Brittany Muenster, Clara Hedrich, Steve Mueller and I had a great time and learned a great deal at Target Training.

We look forward to sharing our new knowledge with our county Farm Bureaus to continue to be the grassroots voice of Wisconsin agriculture.

## District 5 YFA Update

### Upcoming YFA Deadlines and Activities:



**June 1-Aug. 15:** Nominations open for the 35 Under 35 Award  
[wfbf.com/programs/young-farmer-and-agriculturist-program/yfa-contests/35-under-35](http://wfbf.com/programs/young-farmer-and-agriculturist-program/yfa-contests/35-under-35)

**July 1:** Deadline for YFA Contests

#### Farming for the Future Award

[wfbf.com/programs/young-farmer-and-agriculturist-program/yfa-contests/farming-for-the-future-award](http://wfbf.com/programs/young-farmer-and-agriculturist-program/yfa-contests/farming-for-the-future-award)

#### Outstanding Agricultural Professional Award

[wfbf.com/programs/young-farmer-and-agriculturist-program/yfa-contests/outstanding-agriculture-professional-award](http://wfbf.com/programs/young-farmer-and-agriculturist-program/yfa-contests/outstanding-agriculture-professional-award)

**Aug. 14:**

District YFA Tubing Event, Ice Bowl, Princeton

**Aug. 31:**

District Discussion Meet, Montello

[wfbf.com/programs/young-farmer-and-agriculturist-program/yfa-contests/discussion-meet-2](http://wfbf.com/programs/young-farmer-and-agriculturist-program/yfa-contests/discussion-meet-2)

## District 5 YFA Discussion Meet

**Wednesday, August 31**

**7:00 pm - Dinner**  
**7:30 pm - Discussion Meet**

**Marquette County Extension Office**  
**480 Underwood Avenue**  
**Montello, WI**

Topic to be discussed: Due to current economic demands, many farmers and ranchers spend a lot of time outside the "fence rows" on off-farm jobs. How can Farm Bureau become more accessible and welcoming to members who are working in related fields and juggling responsibilities on and off the farm?

For questions, to participate or to RSVP by August 30 contact:

**District 5 YFA Representative -Sara Huber**  
318.572.9731 | [smenar44@gmail.com](mailto:smenar44@gmail.com)



## Young Farmer and Agriculturist AWARDS

APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE

### OUTSTANDING AGRICULTURE PROFESSIONAL AWARD

FOR YFA MEMBERS WHO EARN A MAJORITY OF THEIR INCOME FROM OFF-FARM, NON-PRODUCTION AGRICULTURE JOBS.

**APPLY AT:**

<http://bit.ly/fbagprofessional22>

### FARMING FOR THE FUTURE AWARD

FOR YFA MEMBERS WHO EARN A MAJORITY OF THEIR INCOME FROM THE FARM.

**APPLY AT:**

<http://bit.ly/fbfarmingfuture22>



# District 5 News

## Carley Wins District Essay Contest



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 homeschooled 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: The Story of America's Favorite Snack" by Wisconsin author and dairy farmer, Cris Peterson.

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

Essay submissions had to be 100- to 300-words in length and were judged on content, grammar, spelling and neatness.

The contest is sponsored by We Energies, Wisconsin Soybean Marketing Board, Wisconsin Corn and the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation.

A total of 373 essays were submitted from the district. Congratulations to Winnebago County who had the most essays in the district with 146. Juneau County had the second most with 130 essays.

Also, congratulations to the county winners:

**Adams County:** No entries

**Fond du Lac County:** Rorey O'Connor, St. Paul's Lutheran, Mt. Calvary

**Green Lake County:** Evelyn MacGowan, Princeton Public, Princeton

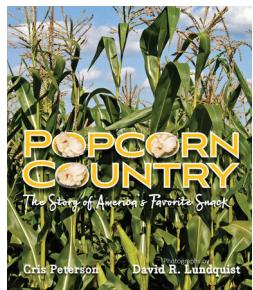
**Juneau County:** Kynsleigh Woolever, Wonewoc-Center, Wonewoc

**Marquette County:** Aurora Stelter, St. John's Lutheran, Montello

**Waushara County:** Carsten Roby, Tri-County Elementary, Plainfield

**Winnebago County:** Kendall Carley, Omro Elementary, Omro

The District 5 winning Ag in the Classroom essay contest winner was Kendall Carley, a fifth grade student at Omro Elementary School. Her parents are Erick and Carey Carley; her teacher is Ms. Heidi Sokolich. Congratulations.



## What's Popping in Wisconsin: The Value of Corn to Our Economy

Did you know that corn started with a grass? The early Mexican natives cultivated this crop over 6,000 years ago. There are four main types of corn, first there is sweet corn. That's the corn humans eat. Then there is popcorn which cannot be eaten unless it is popped. The next corn is fling, otherwise known as Indian corn, it is multicolored and not edible to humans. The four types are dent corn which is fed to livestock and is used to make ethanol. These four types of corn do many things.

The corn industry is vital to Wisconsin's economy. Most of the corn grown in Wisconsin is dent or sweet corn. Almost all of the world's popcorn is grown in the United States. Harvesting, processing, growing, and testing are all jobs that use corn. They all contribute to the economic growth of Wisconsin.

Corn is used to make many different goods. Did you know that there could be corn in the soda you drink and some biodegradable plastics? There are different parts of the kernel that get used to certain purposes. For example, the sugars are often used to make sweeteners for drinks and condiments. Flint corn is commonly used for decoration. What is your favorite corn product?

Without the corn industry Wisconsin wouldn't have a very strong economy like we do today. Could you imagine not having that buttery, delicious, tub of popcorn at the movies or the crunchy sweet corn at the backyard cookout? Even making cheese involves corn somehow! Without field corn the cows wouldn't be able to get fed and in result, no cheese. Corn is one of the most important resources to our economy.

## District 5 Farm Bureau YFA

### Tubing/Kayaking

**Sunday, August 14**  
**12:30 p.m. - 4 p.m.**  
**Meet at The Ice Bowl**  
**725 W. Main Street**  
**Princeton, WI 54968**

## YOUNG FARMER & AGRICULTURIST CONFERENCE

**DECEMBER 2-4, 2022**  
**KALAHARI RESORT**

**ARE YOU A FIRST TIME ATTENDEE? JOIN US FOR FREE!**

**ALREADY ATTENDED? REFER A FRIEND AND WIN CASH!**

**APPLICATION AND DETAILS NOW AVAILABLE AT:**  
<https://bit.ly/ruralsponsor22>

# District 5 News

## Farm Bureau Leaders Ignited by Conference

Wisconsin Farm Bureau hosted its biannual IGNITE Conference at the Holiday Inn Convention Center in Stevens Point, March 25-26. Co-sponsored by Rural Mutual Insurance Company, IGNITE stands for Innovate, Grow, Network, Inform, Train and Engage. With about 125 members in attendance, the conference gave attendees the opportunity to develop professional skills that will strengthen their County Farm Bureaus.

"IGNITE does a great job of giving members and growing leaders the tools we need to go back to our home counties and districts and be successful," said WFBF Young Farmer and Agriculturist Committee Chair Bob Nash. "I was happy to see a lot of new, young faces attending this year's conference."

The conference began on March 25 with fourth-generation Wisconsin dairy farmer and leadership trainer, Hank Wagner. Hank shared the value of relationships and being a servant leader. The evening banquet featured a celebration of Farm Bureau membership, led by WFBF Vice President Dave Daniels, with members reminiscing on why they became a Farm Bureau member and celebrating the organization's volunteers.

The conference offered four tracks: policy, issues and advocacy; governance and organization; building Farm Bureau; and communicating for agriculture and Farm Bureau. Attendees could follow a certain track or divide their time between multiple tracks. Twenty breakout sessions were offered. Sessions included a political outlook for 2022, consumer outreach tactics, member recruitment and many more.

"The breakout sessions had many take-home lessons," said WFBF Promotion and Education Committee Chair Brenda Dowiasch. "They provided attendees with many opportunities to connect with trainers, staff

and state committee members to learn new ways they can contribute to their county Farm Bureaus."

During the morning general session on March 26, Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation Director of Membership and Marketing Robin Kinney shared why volunteers are the important people who energize the organization and contribute to its success.

The conference concluded with motivational speaker Rick Metzger. Metzger shared his four rules of success, encouraging members to be kind, live life to the fullest and be thankful for the opportunity to follow dreams.

The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation is the state's largest general farm organization representing farms of all sizes, commodities and management styles.

District 5 attendees:

**Adams County:** Jeff and Sara (Menard) Huber

**Fond du Lac County:** Reuben and Betty Hopp, Jenny Leahy, Nate Zimdars

**Green Lake County:** Dave Wilke, Yolanda Woloszyn, Linda Swanke, Irene Kutz

**Juneau County:** Sally Turpin, Kyle and Sadie Weber

**Marquette County:** Aaron and Vicky Wachholz

**Waushara County:** Lynn Leahy



Aaron Wachholz, Marquette and Reuben Hopp, Fond du Lac County were recognized for signing new members at the IGNITE Conference.



Fond du Lac County members (from left): Reuben Hopp, Betty Hopp, Jenny Leahy and Nate Zimdars attended the IGNITE Conference.



Green Lake County members (from left): Linda Swanke, Dave Wilke, Yolanda Woloszyn and Irene Kutz attended the IGNITE Conference.

**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](http://bit.ly/PolicyPulseSignUp)

Ag Day at the Capitol Set For March  
24

Wisconsin Farm Bureau FEDERATION

Stay up to date  
on the latest  
legislative news  
affecting you.

## District 5 Policy Development Meeting

Monday, August 8 at 7:30 pm

Host: Jim Hebbe,  
Green Lake County Board Member



N6123 Swamp Road  
Princeton, WI 54968

Pizza will be served before  
the meeting.

Guest Speaker:  
Keith Ripp, WFBF Executive Director  
of Governmental Relations

RSVP by August 6 to Becky Hibicki at  
920.517.2445 or [bhibicki@wfbf.com](mailto:bhibicki@wfbf.com)



## RURAL HEALTH INITIATIVE Program Overview



### Who We Are

ThedaCare Rural Health Initiative (RHI) is a non-profit, community-supported, program focused on improving and sustaining the health and safety of rural families through our unique concept of **Kitchen Wellness**. We are NOT an insurance company, NOT a government-funded program, and we do NOT have income limits.

### Who We Serve

Anyone rural or contributes to agriculture (ages 18 years and older). Common participants include family farms (with and without hired staff), dairy farms (of any size), hobby & crop farms, Amish, and agribusinesses. Spanish interpreters are provided, as needed.

### Counties Served

Shawano • Outagamie • Waupaca • Waushara • Winnebago • Marquette • Green Lake

### Services provided

We come directly to you and provide **Kitchen Wellness**:

- **In-Home/On-Site Preventive Health Screening(s)**. Our health professional comes to you at a convenient time. Visits are casual and take about 20 minutes per person.
- **IMMEDIATE Test Results** of your health screening, including: blood pressure, blood glucose (blood sugar), triglycerides, cholesterol, height, weight, and body mass index (BMI), immunizations and fall risk reduction. Other services also offered, upon request.
- **Health Coaching** on a variety of topics relevant to your health.
- **Referral Information** to local community resources.



Shawano

**Dawn Dingeldein, RN**  
920.639.1183  
[Dawn.Dingeldein@thedacare.org](mailto:Dawn.Dingeldein@thedacare.org)



Green Lake

**Renee Foist**  
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Waupaca

**Tara Knaack**  
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Ripon

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Winnebago

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Outagamie

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Waushara

**Debbie Walrath, RN**  
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Stay connected with us at [thedacare.org/ruralhealth](http://thedacare.org/ruralhealth)

Services paid by CDC grant

ThedaCare Print Center 04/22 PS1831

## A Message From The President

Kay Olson

Adams County Farm Bureau President



May and June bring us many happy and joyous occasions such as May flowers, Mother's Day, graduations, weddings and Father's Day.

It is a beautiful time of the year for farmers as we begin our spring work. All of these can be happy times for us, and yet at the same time can

be very sad times.

We need to be aware that safety comes first. Many are in a hurry to get around the farm equipment on the roads, but in reality, they only slow us down for a little bit. Stop and think if you try to get around them on the road or pass in a no passing zone, it could slow you down for a lot longer, even maybe a lifetime, or you could be the reason that farmer never made it home that evening.

I say this because I have seen this too many times driving on the roads. Many of our back roads are narrow and difficult to see around that equipment. Farmers tend to watch out for those behind and try to pull over to allow someone to pass when it is safe. Not only be on the lookout for farmers but also our co-op drivers who are out there on the roads making deliveries and doing field work. So slow down and remember, you have a vested interest in agriculture if you like to eat.

I often hear or see on Facebook complaints about farm equipment on the road impeding traffic and they put a call into the sheriff's department. I am always amazed and yet many of those who complain never complain about ATV/UTVs impeding traffic and ATV/UTVs are only allowed to go 35 miles an hour or less when going past homes.

As well as there are people out for that peaceful drive. Our roads and highways are for everyone as they are the only means to get from one place to another. I suggest slowing down so everyone makes it home safely to their families and loved ones.

COVID has slowed our Farm Bureau and activities a little bit. Now, we are becoming more active. The YFA program has held several activities already and have more planned. If you are interested in more information,



please contact Jeff and Sara (Menard) Huber.

Our Ag in the Classroom volunteers did an Earth Day project with grades K through sixth grade at Coloma Elementary. We made Earth Day bracelets with the kindergarten and first-grade students and with grades second through sixth, we made edible soil.

This was a great project for the students to learn about the layers of the earth and about saving our topsoil. You can find a collage of photos elsewhere in the newsletter. Your Farm Bureau donated to the Hospital Foundation, the A-F Powerlifters and the Adams-Friendship FFA.

We will offer our yearly scholarship to graduating seniors and or those in a post-secondary school who have not received one of our scholarships before. If you have someone interested, please contact me at kolsonmartz@gmail.com or 608.572.1429.

We did not make our quota set by the state before the end of March of 20 new voting members. Your board of directors is still working on that. If you know of anyone who you think would benefit from being a member, please contact one of your board members.

Our annual dues are \$50 per year. Now, we are working on contacting our delinquent members to pay their dues. Each year, your renewal also helps us run our programs. We appreciate and thank you for your membership. You can join and renew online using the WFBF website. If you have any questions, please call.

I want to remind you that we still are meeting virtually but if you want to join our meetings, please contact us and we will give you the information how to join us via Microsoft Team on the computer or to connect by telephone.

In closing, have a safe spring and summer.

## 14 Mile Watershed



Hello. My name is Kyle Kettner, and recently, I was hired on as the watershed coordinator for the 14 Mile Creek Watershed Nine Key Element Plan.

This is a comprehensive watershed management plan that outlines specific and measurable steps to improve and protect water quality during the next 30 years.

This management plan covers portions of Adams, Portage, Waushara and Wood counties from Plainfield in the east to Lake Petenwell in

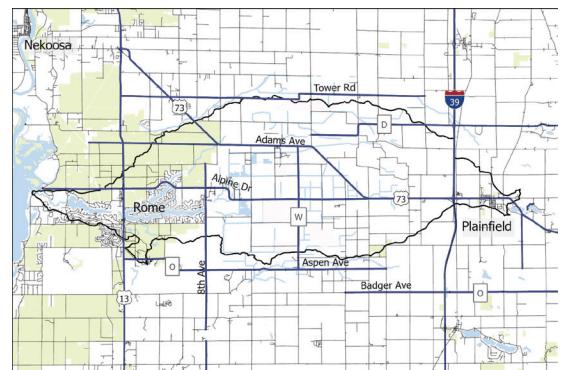
the west. Although I'm hired through Adams County Land and Water, I will be working with four counties, their residents and producers within the watershed.

In my role as watershed coordinator, I will be working directly with individuals, organizations and government agencies to implement the Nine Key Element Plan.

Participation with the Nine Key Element Plan is entirely voluntary. This means first and foremost that my priority is to work directly with

stakeholders including homeowners, residents and producers to identify how we can make the plan work with their objectives and needs.

If you are interested in learning more about this program is working to improve water quality, or have any questions on how you and your property can benefit, please contact me at 608.474.0698 or kyle.kettner@co.adams.wi.us.



The 14 Mile Creek Watershed Nine Key Element Plan website at [tinyurl.com/fourteenmile](http://tinyurl.com/fourteenmile) also provides additional information, including a sign-up for our newsletter, an interactive map of the watershed and a recording of the public informational meeting held in March.

## A Message From The President



**Reuben Hopp**

Fond du Lac County Farm Bureau President

Hello, Fond du Lac County Farm Bureau members. I hope you are excited as I am to finally be coming into some warmer weather.

We are very pleased to share that our county made its new voting goal by the end of March. Thank you to those who worked hard at signing new members. Fond du Lac County was the first county in the district to

reach out new voting goal.

Thank you to Vice President Chris Pollack for being a great advocate for agriculture as he has been interviewed by TV and other media outlets.

Thanks again, Chris, for telling your agricultural story.

This summer also gives us many other opportunities to be active in our communities. Our county fair will be held **July 20-24**.

The Farm Bureau's Country Café food stand is our largest fundraiser of the year. We are always looking for additional volunteers.

Remember the proceeds from the food stand support scholarships, Ag in the Classroom and other programs that support our youth.

This year, we awarded five, \$1,000 scholarships.

Also, later this summer is the Alto Fair, **Aug. 10-11** in Alto. The Farm Bureau will have a booth at the fair. Find the village of Alto and come enjoy a couple days of fun and relaxing.

My wish to you is to enjoy the summer and be safe.

God bless you.

## YFA Committee Popcorn Fundraiser Set in June

**When:** June 1-15

**How:**

- Order from Faris' website at [www.farisfundraising.com/](http://www.farisfundraising.com/) fundraiser-shop.
- When checking out, make sure to enter our group code: FDL Farm Bureau.

**What now:** Orders will ship directly to your home between June 29 and July 6.

**Why:** Help Fond du Lac County Farm Bureau fundraise to provide leadership training, networking opportunities and educational activities for the county's young farmers and agriculturalists, while also supporting a local business.

For questions, please contact Fond du Lac County Farm Bureau YFA chair Jenny Leahy at 920.979.3213.



[WWW.FARISFUNDRAISING.COM](http://WWW.FARISFUNDRAISING.COM)

## O'Conner Wins County Essay Contest

Rorey O'Connor, a student at St. Paul's Lutheran School in Mt. Calvary was the Fond du Lac County Farm Bureau essay contest winner.

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

Each year the topic has specific lesson plans, activities and other resources that teachers, volunteers and homeschool parents can use to teach about Wisconsin agriculture.



## Five, \$1,000 Farm Bureau Scholarships Awarded to Area Youth

The Fond du Lac County Farm Bureau awarded five, \$1,000 scholarships to area youth.

Graduating high school senior scholarships were awarded to Sam Mess,



**Izzy Badtke** is the daughter of Duwayne and Amy Badtke. She is a 2022 graduate of Ripon High School and will attend UW-Platteville to pursue a degree in dairy science.



**Sam Mess** is the son of August and Deb Mess of Rosendale. He is a 2022 graduate of Laconia High School. He will attend Fox Valley Technical College to study agribusiness science and technology and animal science.



**Cameron Pokorny** is the son of Doyle and Kim Pokorny. He is a 2022 Waupun High School graduate. He will attend UW-Platteville to study automation engineering with an agricultural focus.



**Kaylee Mess** is the daughter of Austin and Deb Mess of Rosendale. She is a student at UW-River Falls studying agricultural education.



**Katrina Pokorny** is the daughter of Kim and Doyle Pokorny of Waupun. She is studying healthcare administration, business administration and marketing at Marian University.

Congratulations  
Scholarship Recipients!

## A Message From The President



Peter Badtke

Green Lake County Farm Bureau President

Hello, Green Lake County member.

I want to take a minute and thank you for your continued membership. Right now, in Wisconsin, six townships in Polk and Burnett counties, town boards have passed rules and regulations making farming almost impossible.

Rules like requiring farms to prevent smells noticeable to humans, execute traffic studies and conduct hours of operation on the farm from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. This is why your membership in Wisconsin Farm Bureau is so important. Your membership in WFBF ensures farmer's needs and concerns are heard on the local, state and federal levels.

Our voices were heard in January when five Green Lake County Farm Bureau members attended Ag Day at the Capitol, where we sat down with Senator Joan Ballweg (R-Markesan) and Representative Alex Dallman

(R-Green Lake). We are so thankful for their understanding and support for Wisconsin and Green Lake County agriculture.

Thank you to those who helped at our second annual pork roast dinner on April 9 in Princeton. Another success serving around 310 meals in two and a half hours.

On **Sunday, July 31**, we will have our fourth annual Green Lake County Farm Bureau summer picnic at the food stand building at the fairgrounds. Please plan on attending for good food and once again we will have our corn hole tournament with trophies for the top three teams.

Also, we are looking for volunteers at our food stand during the Green Lake County Fair, even a few hours here and there are fine to keep our stand running smoothly. Please contact us if you can help.

Another event will be our annual meeting on **Tuesday, Sept. 13**, at the Farmview Event Barn. This year, we will have Bob Welch from the Welch Group as our guest speaker. Bob will talk about biomass, renewable gas, carbon credits and creating a carbon standard.

Wishing everyone a safe planting and a great summer.

## County Farm Bureau Scholarships Awarded

This year, the Green Lake County Farm Bureau awarded four scholarships to graduating high school seniors.



Kasie Badtke, the daughter of Pete and Lori Badtke of Ripon is a \$250 scholarship recipient. Kasie is a 2022 graduate of Ripon High School.



Julia Franke, the daughter of Jason and Sue Franke of Princeton is a \$250 scholarship recipient. Julia is a 2022 Princeton High School graduate.



Gabby Huitema is a 2022 graduate of Markesan High School. She is the daughter of Dan and Miranda Huitema and will pursue a career in veterinary medicine.



Cassady Nitz, the daughter of Andy and Rachel Nitz of Markesan is a \$250 scholarship recipient. Cassady is a 2022 Markesan High School graduate.

# Juneau County



## Turpin Retires from AFBF YF&R Conference

By Sally Turpin, Retired AFBF YF&R Committee Member

For the past two years, I had the amazing opportunity to serve on the AFBF YF&R Committee.

My term wrapped up with the conclusion of the YF&R Leadership Conference held in late February. This year's conference was in Louisville, Kentucky, with a theme of The Triple Crown of Agriculture: Food, Fiber, Fuel and gave Farm Bureau members from across the country the chance to network and develop connections with other young farmers, hear great speakers and get a chance to see some of Kentucky's agriculture.

After a three year hiatus, everyone was thrilled to be back at an in-person event.

For me, getting involved in Farm Bureau started as competing in the Discussion Meet, participating in the WFBF Leadership Institute, serving on my county board and the WFBF YFA Committee, which led to applying for the YF&R Committee.

I know I have sure enjoyed the opportunities for learning and growth while serving on the committee, as well as the lifelong friendships I have made.

Take advantage of the opportunities that lie before you since you never know where they might lead, great things often start small.





## A Message From The President



Kip Weber

Juneau County Farm Bureau President

In February, students from the Royall and Mauston FFA chapters attended the one-day FFA Farm Forum conference in Wisconsin Rapids. Thank you to Mark Lanke from Tri-County Seeds and Hillsboro

Equipment for helping sponsor these students to attend.

Once again Compeer Financial donated \$500 to the Juneau County Farm Bureau. This money was used to purchase Ag in the Classroom books for area schools.

## Horn Wins Farm Bureau Scholarship

Elle Horn, daughter of Tim and Susan Horn is the 2022 Juneau County Farm Bureau scholarship recipient. Horn graduated from Mauston High School. This fall she will attend UW-Platteville to major in finance with a minor in agribusiness. Her career goal is to work in a bank as an agriculture financial manager and one day be a bank vice president.

Congratulations, and best of luck in your future endeavors.



The Juneau County Farm Bureau held a successful wine and cheese tasting event on March 19 at the Club Chapparal in Wonewoc. Thank you those who attended. Special thank you to D&T Delights, Darrel and Tammy Becker for donating cheese and to Rural Insurance Agent Jim Wehinger for donating the wine for the event. The board is already discussing ideas for our wine and cheese tasting event for next year.

I also want to thank the board of directors. We have a great group of directors that volunteers many hours to advocate for agriculture and implement programs that support the youth in Juneau County. Also, I want to thank you for being a Juneau County Farm Bureau member. Your continued membership and support is truly appreciated.

Please keep Carl's wife Tonra and their family in your prayers.

## 130 Ag in the Classroom Essays Received

By Tonra Degner, Juneau County Ag in the Classroom Coordinator

The essay chosen to move on to district competition belongs to Kynsleigh Woolover from Wonewoc Center Schools. She will be one of the trophy winners. Other trophies will go to Mikey Murphy and Payton Czys of Grayside Elementary in Mauston, and Hayden McGinley of Wonewoc-Center.

This year, we received 130 essays. There were three honorable mentions who will receive a certificate including: Faith Daugs and Tyler Roloff from St. Paul Lutheran School in Wonewoc and Payton Green from Royall Intermediate. All students who submitted an essay will receive a prize.



# Marquette County

## A Message From The President

Aaron Wachholz

Marquette County Farm Bureau President



Hello, Marquette County Farm Bureau member.

Spring is here and slowly but surely the leaves, grass and landscape of our county are turning into a beautiful green hue.

The smell of spring is in the air, the earthy aroma of fresh tilled soil, the sweetness of the blooming lilacs and the smokey goodness of a tasty meal being prepared on a grill. That first of the year steak or pork chop on the grill has always made my tastebuds water. The marbling along with the low and slow cooking by smoke makes grilling king in spring.

But what about where the steak or choice cut of meat came from? It may have come from your local grocery store or convenience store, but more families are choosing to buy direct from the source, the farmer.

Farmers take pride in their work and love to taste the reward of their labors, and many farmers, even in Marquette County, are selling direct to their consumer. Why? The profit potential is much greater without the middleman taking his cut.

Consumers are buying direct from the farmer because they value that



one-on-one relationship with a farmer and seeing how that animal was fed, cared for and lived its life.

COVID caused more customers to come back to the farm instead of the store, and how much better the quality is direct from a farmer. Buying local is not a new concept, but now more than ever, consumers are getting educated about their meat choices and are choosing local.

Local is always better as you are stimulating more local commerce and growth. Keeping your hard-earned money here in Marquette County is pivotal and supports the person who should receive the best price for the work, the farmer. The overwhelming taste difference and higher quality makes it worth trying.

Among many producers of meat here in Marquette County, there are many other things to buy direct including: honey, fruits and vegetables, wine and crafted beers, to name a few.

No matter what product or commodity it may be, Marquette County offers superior products that are worth driving for and even a higher price tag. Explore the county this summer and taste how much we love Wisconsin and our county, and it is found ONLY IN MARQUETTE COUNTY.

God bless you.



June Dairy Breakfast

Sunday, June 12  
7 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
Marquette County Fair Grounds  
757 Main Street, Westfield

Featuring pancakes, a scrambled egg bar, sausage, fried potatoes, apple sauce, juice, milk, cheese and ice cream.

\$12 for adults  
\$6 for 4-8 year olds  
3 years and under free

Fun activities for the entire family!

Petting zoo, games, bingo, 50/50 raffle, live radio broadcast, music and more!

For more information contact Victoria Wachholz  
at 608.369.2644

# Marquette County

## County Essay Contest Winner



The Marquette County Essay Contest winner was Aurora Stelter from St. John's Lutheran School. Aurora and her classmates enjoyed some popcorn as a prize for winning and participating in the contest.

## Bittelman, Wagner to Receive County Scholarships



**Emily Bittelman,** Westfield Area High School. Emily plans to attend UW-River Falls and study agribusiness and crop science. Emily was very involved in the local FFA chapter and served as FFA vice president and president. She also was involved in 4-H, National Honor Society, Spanish Club, Bowls for Hunger and Badger Horse Show Association.



**Johnathan Wagner,** Montello High School. Johnathan plans to attend Fox Valley Technical College and study in their Fire Protection Program. Johnathan has been in FFA and served as a FFA officer. He also was active church, community and helped at the Marquette County Fair.

# Waushara County

## A Message From The President



**Mike Leahy**

Waushara County Farm Bureau President

I wanted to share a quick update on what your county Farm Bureau has been up to during the past few months.

Earlier this year, Sara Stelter, Lynn Leahy and I represented the county at Ag Day at the Capitol. We met with Representatives

Kevin Peterson (R-Waupaca) and Scott Krug (R-Nekoosa) as well as Senator Pat Testin (R-Stevens Point). During these meetings we advocated for the support of initiatives including:

- Pilot Grant Program to Promote Nitrogen Optimization: \$2 million for a commercial nitrogen optimization pilot grant program requiring DATCP to award grants of up to \$50,000 to farmers who implement projects to optimize commercial nitrogen use.
- Cover Crop Insurance Rebates: Crop insurance premium rebate program where farmers may receive \$5 per acre to help offset the costs to plant cover crops funded at \$400,000 per year.
- Producer-Led Watershed Grant Program Changes: Expands eligibility for producer-led watershed grants to allow grants to be made to producer-led groups that are made up of farmers located in adjacent watersheds.
- AB 73/SB 81 legislative bills require the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection to create and implement regulation that would prohibit any product from being offered for sale labeled as a dairy product unless the food is derived from cows' or other mammals' milk.
- AB 75/SB 82 legislative bills prohibit any type of meat food product from being labeled as meat unless the food product is derived from the flesh of an animal. This does not include cultured animal tissue grown in a laboratory.
- DNR to establish a sandhill crane hunting season and establish harvest quota based on current management objectives.
- Sandhill cranes would qualify for the Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims program.
- If a hunting season is authorized, then permits will be issued in designated hunting areas.
- Applicants for a sandhill crane harvest permit must complete a sandhill

crane hunter education course that requires, in addition to other provisions, the proper method used to distinguish sandhill cranes from other birds.

These were extremely productive meetings and three representatives expressed overwhelming support for these initiatives.

The application period is now open for the WFBF Young Farmer and Agriculturist awards. These awards are focused on Farm Bureau members 35 and younger. There are two categories: Farming for the Future Award and Outstanding Agricultural Professional Award.

The Farming for the Future Award judges participants for their on the farm work, goals for the future, leadership ability and participation in Farm Bureau and other civic and service organizations. Applicants derive a majority of their income from on-farm production agriculture.

The Outstanding Agriculture Professional Award judges participants on their involvement in agriculture, leadership ability, involvement and participation in Farm Bureau and other civic and service organizations. Applicant(s) for this award must derive a majority of their income from an off-farm job. Examples would be an agriculture teacher, fertilizer salesperson, veterinarian, farm employee, agricultural writer or marketer.

We have so many outstanding young farmers and ag professionals in our county. I ask you to encourage the young farmer or agriculturalist you know to apply for one of these awards.

I know too often we get busy and wrapped up in the hustle and bustle of daily life. Please take a moment to reflect not only on your physical health but your mental well-being as well.

Know that there are resources available so that everyone can stay happy and healthy.

Finally, I want to update you on the Waushara County Ag Resource Guide that the board is developing. This resource, which will be available online and distributed to area schools, will supply member contact information and resource material that teachers, in these schools, can use to incorporate real life ag into their lessons. Be it through local speakers, tours or interviews.

This resource is the first step in connecting our members and community stakeholders in an ever-widening rural urban divide. If you want to be included, please contact Sara Stelter.

The plan is to get this resource to the local schools before the end of this school year. Great job leading this project, Sara.

## President's Report



### Amanda Volp

Winnebago County Farm Bureau President

Spring has sprung and we are getting into the heart of planting. The weather is beginning to warm up and the grass is getting greener. My prayer is that everyone has a successful and safe planting season.

It has been a busy year so far for Winnebago County Farm Bureau.

On Jan. 15, 150 people attended our Community Night. It was encouraging to see the folks who gathered within the community,

both from rural and urban areas. We had 100 people playing BINGO with a table full of prizes.

Children enjoyed playing in the corn pools with toy tractors. We had a total of six live auction items and the 50/50 raffles were generously purchased. During the night we offered two different food choices, a mac n cheese and nacho bar. We ended the night with a live band. The feedback we received from the event will help us make it better.

On Jan. 26 a few board members attended Ag Day at the Capitol in Madison and advocated for agricultural issues with our lobbyists.

At the end of January, several board members assisted in judging the FFA District Speaking Contests at the Omro High School. The

knowledge, dedication and professionalism expressed by those FFA members was astonishing and paints a bright future for agriculture and the next generation to come.

In February, we sponsored FFA students from Omro and Winneconne School Districts who attended the FFA Farm Forum.

Rebecca Poppy, our Ag in the Classroom coordinator helped celebrate National Ag Day, by reading books relating to agriculture with fellow FFA students and showing them the ways of popcorn.

Planning for the summer activities is largely underway, from June Dairy Month promotions to the Winnebago County Food Stand. We welcome anyone who wants to participate or lend a helping hand for a couple of hours, any support is greatly appreciated.

Lastly, May is National Beef Month. On May 7 we hosted our third Annual Drive by Steak Fry on May 7 at Brighton Acres. The popular steak plate and cheeseburger made a comeback. During the event we offered picnic tables for dining, a meat cut challenge, raffle baskets of different beef products and a meet and greet with a live cow/calf pair. Thank you to all that attended.

Here's to a stellar summer! God bless.



## Dairy Promotion Committee Update

By Linda Mullins, Winnebago County Dairy Promotion Committee

The Winnebago County Dairy Promotion Committee has been very busy already in 2022.

We kicked off the year by participating in the Winnebago County Farm Bureau Community Night where we sponsored the delicious mac n cheese and gave the public a chance to check out all the awesome resources that dairy provides at our display.

In February, we were busy spreading the Love of Cheese with a couple smaller campaigns to promote cheese. Recently, we developed a Refuel with Chocolate Milk campaign that will be launched at local schools in Winnebago County. This campaign focuses on student athletes refueling with low-fat chocolate milk after strenuous exercise. We hope to make this an ongoing campaign to keep milk in schools.

This spring we have been popping up helping provide local farm tour experiences to area schools including high school agriculture/FFA students and fourth-grader students.

Next up, June Dairy Month. We have been making plans for our June Dairy Month activities including a pregame event with Udder Tuggers (aka Timber Rattlers) for its June Dairy Month celebration weekend, as well as our Grilled Cheese Drive-Thru at a local farm.

Be sure to stay up to date by 'Liking' and following us on Facebook at Winnebago County Farm Bureau and Winnebago County Dairy Promotion pages.



### Upcoming Dairy Promotion Events – Mark Your Calendars

**June 3:** Udder Tuggers, 4:30 p.m. First pitch (approximately 6:40 p.m.); games, prizes and live animals.

**June 25:** Grilled Cheese, Ewald Farm 5246 Luebke Road, Oshkosh; Drive-Thru (everyone stays in their cars), pre-order grilled cheese meals including: grilled cheese, milk, fresh cheese curds and custard. Pre-order platform coming soon, see an active dairy farm, lots of animals, dairy displays and activities to do while in your car.

## Ag in the Classroom Update

By Rebecca Poppy, Ag in the Classroom Chair

On Jan. 28, Ag in the Classroom volunteers Rebecca Poppy and Jennifer Carpenter went to Omro Elementary School and read the book of the year to fourth- and fifth-grade students. This year's book of the year is "Popcorn Country: The Story of America's Favorite Snack" by Cris Peterson, who happens to be a Wisconsin author.



**Essay contest winners (from left): Anna Henricksen, third place; Kendall Carley, first place; Adessa Schoening, second place. Kendall also was the District 5 essay winner.**

Rebecca and Jennifer also had several ears of corn available for the students to look at. Everything from flint corn (Indian corn) to dent corn (field corn) to sweet corn and finally popcorn. Most of the students and some of the teachers had never seen popcorn still on the cob. After the book of the year was read, Rebecca introduced the essay contest topic, 'What's Popping in Wisconsin? The Value of Corn to our Economy?' Finally, everyone enjoyed America's favorite snack, popcorn.

FFA Advisor Andrew Hooks and FFA Members Karlee Zick, Makayla Angel, Madelynn Poppy and Madi Brooks took time to pop a delicious treat for the students.

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