



Grassroots

District 1 News

Strategic Plan Moving WFBF Forward



Dave Daniels

WFBF District 1 Director and Vice President

Hello, District 1 Farm Bureau member, Annual meeting season is upon us, and I want to thank you for being a Farm Bureau member and give you a glimpse of what we, the Farm Bureau Board of Directors, have been working on. Our strategic plan for 2021-2024 encompasses five points.

- **Grassroots Policy Guides Engagement:** This is the roadmap for your organization and what Farm Bureau does. All the policy we create comes from the local County Farm Bureaus. We encourage and promote opportunities to network with elected officials locally, in Madison and in Washington, D.C. We also network with other organizations who have common goals to better Wisconsin agriculture.
- **Raise Public Awareness through Ag in the Classroom and Consumer Outreach:** This is accomplished with Beth Schaefer, our Ag in the Classroom Coordinator, who works with our local Farm Bureaus to reach out to classrooms; discussing modern farming practices and how they create efficiencies in food production. Our Promotion and Education Committees also reaches out to the consumers to educate them on agriculture.
- **Retain, Grow and Develop Members:** What does the Farm Bureau of 2025 look like? We know we can't wait until then to find out, which means we need to go out and recruit those new members and ask that very question. We also need to develop and engage existing members through parts of our organization, such as the Young Farmers and Agriculturists and the WFBF Leadership Institute.
- **Economic Viability for the Organization:** Your Board of Directors feels this is one of the most important functions. It is never easy talking about monies in a service industry driven by memberships. We are always considering what programs we keep and how much do we allow for that program to be successful. It's a balance for the board and the staff at WFBF to keep us moving forward and relevant for our members.
- **Environmental Stewardship:** Whether you call it sustainability, regenerative or any other buzz words, we are keeping our members involved and at the table to discuss and educate the consumer on what the Wisconsin farmer is doing now, and in the future.

By following this strategic plan, we accomplish many things to keep our organization moving forward. The vision for Wisconsin Farm Bureau is to be the trusted voice leading Wisconsin agriculture forward. With the help of you, our dedicated Farm Bureau members, we will accomplish this.

Again, thank you for being a member and have a safe harvest season.

**This article was included in the county annual meeting booklet.*

It Starts With Us

Patti Wilhelme

WFBF District 1 Coordinator

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation is a grassroots organization, so everything that we do begins with you, our members. We are led by our mission statement: Empowering the Wisconsin agricultural community through our grassroots membership to preserve and promote the advancement of agriculture.

Did you know that the yearly dues that you pay not only makes you a member of your local county, but also of Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation and American Farm Bureau Federation? Paying your dues means that you have a voice on all three levels – local, state and national.

One of my favorite parts of my job is meeting you, the members. You each bring a different dynamic to the meetings and when we are all at the same table, I love seeing the grassroots process in action. I truly enjoy attending the county policy development meetings to hear what new topics each county is passionate about, and to forward those resolutions to the county annual meeting.

After the county annual meeting, your resolutions continue to move forward. The state resolutions are passed on to the state policy development committee. They look through each and every policy that is submitted, and then they are forwarded to the delegates at the WFBF Annual Meeting for consideration on the delegate floor. Seeing members speak up for the topics that they are passionate about is the true grassroots process.

As we close on another Farm Bureau year, and start the next season, make sure you continue to be involved and make your voice heard. If you are looking for new ways to become involved in your county Farm Bureau, contact me and I'm happy to discuss the options. Continue to watch the newsletters for upcoming dates and events, there are many opportunities for you to have your voice heard throughout the year.

I want to thank you for being a Farm Bureau member in your county. With your membership, you also are a member of Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation and American Farm Bureau Federation.

It's amazing to know that your voice at the local level can be carried on to the national level and influence policy. Thank you for attending your county annual meeting and for letting your voice be heard in creating policy for Wisconsin Farm Bureau.

The Farm Bureau vision is: The trusted voice leading Wisconsin agriculture forward. Thank you for trusting us with your membership to move agriculture forward.

God bless.

**This article was included in the county annual meeting booklets.*

Whirlwind of a Year



Bob Nash

WFBF YFA Committee Chair

Hello District 1 member,
Wow, it's crazy to think I am already writing my year end wrap-up. Seems like just yesterday I was in my first WFBF Board meeting really starting to see what my role as 2022 YFA Chair was all about. I can say it's been the busiest year of my life trying to experience as much as I can;

it's been a truly amazing experience.

We started the year out with our first district activity of PBR bull riding. What a huge hit. Next, we had the Spring Fling dance back for the first time in two years. What a great night. We filled Turner Hall all the way up with more than 450 people. I think it's safe to say this event is back and it's only going to get better.

At the state level, we had a few YFA Committee meetings around the state and started planning for this year's YFA conference. I also got to attend Council of Presidents and Ag Day at the Capitol. I also traveled to Louisville, Kentucky, for the YF&R Conference. Wisconsin was very well represented, and I even got some time to talk one-on-one with AFBF President Zippy Duvall. Throughout my year, I've enjoyed meeting a lot of people and doing a chair training with the other states. I've really enjoyed spending time with people and networking.

I got to attend my first ever groundbreaking ceremony in Plover at the New Farm Exploration Center. Seeing the project come together is going to be very cool to see. In June, I went to Washington, D.C., with the WFBF Board and the Leadership Institute class. Going to Washington, D.C., was easily the best experience I have ever had with Farm Bureau. Just to be able to go to D.C. is amazing, but to go there with a purpose was the icing on the cake for me.

Capitol Hill visits and getting to talk with elected officials about things

we have going on back home is something I will never forget.

July brought me to the one of my favorite places in Wisconsin, Crandon in the north woods. We had our July YFA Committee meeting at my mom's lake house, we got to tour a potato farm and a cranberry farm. Both tours were new to me and very interesting with all they do to make a successful crop grow. The YFA Committee even got to spend some time on the lake after all the work was done.

I put a lot of miles on in August when I drove all the way up to District 9 for the board retreat. This also was the same day as Giving Day. I want to thank all the donors. The YFA half hour goal was to raise \$2,000 in 30 minutes. I challenged the YFA that if we reached our goal, not only would Wendy Volkert and I take a pie to the face, but WFBF President and CAO Kevin Krentz and I would do the ice bucket challenge. Well, we made our goal with time to spare, so I got to do the pie and the ice bucket on one of the coldest days at the beginning of October. When we were in District 9 for the board retreat, we took a tour of the ports in Duluth, from water and land. Very cool to see how many commodities move through there in a year.

Winding down, the rest of the year, I'm really just enjoying my time on the WFBF Board more than ever and getting through county annual meeting season. I'm very excited to see everyone in December in Wisconsin Dells and show off our hard work as a YFA Committee.

The new 35 under 35 award is something we have been working all year and I can't wait to see it all pay off in December.

Thank you for letting me be your YFA Committee representative for the last five years. I have very much enjoyed my time getting to know you. It's truly been a blessing to me and made me such a better person and leader. I look forward to seeing you soon.

As my time as YFA Chair comes to a close, please welcome Darren and Kendall Riskedal, they are taking over my role on the YFA Committee representing District 1. I wish them success in the future and I know they will do great.

Thank you and have a safe harvest.

Dairy Theme for Essay Contest

The 2023 essay contest and book of the year was announced. It's never too early to reach out to your schools and encourage participation in the essay contest.



The essay contest is open to fourth- and fifth-grade students and is due by **April 1, 2023**. This year's topic is, 'You're Goona Need Milk for That – Wisconsin Dairy Fuels our Bodies, Communities and Economy.'

The topic relates to the book of the year, "Tales of the Dairy Godmother – Chuck's Ice Cream Wish" by Viola Butler and illustrated by Ward Jenkins.

For the most up-to-date list of county essay contest coordinators and essay contest information, visit the Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom website at www.wisagclassroom.org. Essay contest information can be found in the 'events and activities' tab.

Discussion Meet Winners Advancing

The District 1 YFA Discussion Meet was held on July 19 at the Delafield Brewhaus in conjunction with the District Policy Development meeting.

We began the evening with five contestants participating in the Discussion Meet. The district topic was: *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?*

Thank you to those who participated. Kallie Jo Coates and Emily Piehler from Racine County, Amelia Hayden from Walworth County, Whitney Rathke from Ozaukee County and Leah Weninger from Washington County.

Those advancing to the state contest include: Kallie Jo Coates, Emily Piehler and Whitney Rathke.

Please wish our three contestants the best of luck at the YFA Conference in December.



Discussion meet contestants from left Emily Piehler, Leah Weninger, Amelia Hayden, Kallie Jo Coates and Whitney Rathke.

Your Membership Matters

Patti Wilhelme

WFBB District 1 Coordinator

District 1 is comprised of eight counties, and I'm happy to report that as of the end of the membership year on Sept. 30, five counties had both a total and voting membership gain and one county had a total membership gain. In addition, WFBB also had a gain in total and voting members. Congratulations to the following counties who had both a total and voting gain: Jefferson, Ozaukee, Racine, Walworth and Washington. Congratulations to Milwaukee County who had a gain in total members. I also want to thank the hardworking membership volunteers in District 1.

- **Jefferson County:** Lindsay Baneck and Roger Zimmerman signed two new members.
- **Kenosha County:** Ben Harbach signed two new members.
- **Ozaukee County:** Lisa Gantner signed one new member; Bob Nash signed five new members.
- **Racine County:** Kallie Jo Coates, Natasha Hagemann, Jeff Rice, John Scott and Kayla Wilson signed one new member. Brian Schaal signed eight new members.
- **Walworth County:** Sue Thelen signed one new member. Derrick Papcke signed five new members. Terry Papcke signed six new members.
- **Washington County:** Bill Hinckley and Mike Kannenberg signed one new member. Mark Schaefer signed two new members. John Falk and Scott Schreffler signed five new members. Mike Strupp signed 10 new members.
- **Waukesha County:** Brittany Gerrits signed two new members. Jay Moore signed 27 new members.

Anyone who signed more than five or more new members will be recognized at the WFBB Annual Meeting in the Farm Bureau Proud Club.

The new membership year has begun, it's never too early to begin signing up new members.

Thank you for being a Farm Bureau member. Here's a breakdown of District 1 counties and yearly dues amount. Please note that when you receive your bill, or renew online, the total will include the donations to the VFA and WFB Foundation. Those two donations are optional.

\$55 = Jefferson, Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Washington and Waukesha

\$58 = Walworth

\$60 = Racine

Do you know where your dues go? Your dues are helping the state and county conduct programs and goes towards your membership to American Farm Bureau. Check out the listing of your dues amount below.

- Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation = \$40
- Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation Services Program = \$3
- American Farm Bureau Federation = \$5
- Accidental Death Policy = \$1
- County Farm Bureau = remaining amount between \$6-\$11

Thank you for being a member of your county Farm Bureau. If you have any questions about your membership dues, how to read your billing statement or if you know someone who wants to join farm bureau, don't hesitate to reach out to me at pwilhelme@wfbf.com.

LET'S GET READY TO RUMBLE...
MEMBERSHIP EDITION

IT TAKES A TEAM!

"It Takes a Team" is the theme for the 2022-2023 membership year.

This year's membership campaign is putting districts against each other head-to-head to see who can hit their membership goals.

District 1
membership mascot:



CORNERSTONE

Annual Meeting Held at Fairview Inn

By Melissa Gross, County Farm Bureau Secretary

Fifty-nine people were in attendance, which included 32 voting members, at the 102nd Jefferson County Annual Meeting on Sept. 25 at Fairview Inn. The delicious dinner was catered by Hoggin' Cake.

Following dinner, voting members passed resolutions, elected directors and voted on delegates to the WFBF Annual Meeting.

Directors who have been elected to a three-year term include: Steve Knoebel, Tim Madenwaldt, Tony Schadt and Dan Schmocker. Ashley Schlender has been elected to a one-year term as Promotion and Education Committee chair, and Lindsay Baneck has been elected to a one-year term as YFA Committee chair.

Directors who retired from the board include: Sue Andersen and Scott Schultz. We thank them for their years of service and dedication to the Jefferson County Farm Bureau board of directors.

Delegates also were elected to the WFBF Annual Meeting. Those elected are Dawn Jones, Steve Jones, Eugene Mess, Mary Mess, Randy Mitchell, Karen Schadt, Tony Schadt and Roger Zimmerman. Laura Zimmerman will attend as an alternate.

Following elections, the Service to Agriculture award was presented. Ashley Schlender announced the scholarship recipients.

We had a great county annual meeting and are looking forward to the year ahead.



Randy Mitchell, county president, led a great meeting.



Ashley Schlender extended the invocation, presented a service to agriculture award and announced scholarship recipients.



Melissa Gross presented a service to agriculture award.



Vice President Tony Schadt read the resolutions that were voted on.



The election of directors and delegates was directed by Steve Jones.



We had a great crowd at Fairview Inn.



The Rural Mutual report was given by Jason Bender.



Angie Greving gave the Insight FS report.



WFBF report was given by District 1 Director Dave Daniels.

Local Businesses Receive Service to Agriculture Award

By Melissa Gross, County Farm Bureau Secretary

The Service to Agriculture Award was established to recognize an outstanding individual or business who demonstrates a commitment to agriculture in Jefferson County.

One of this year's awards goes to Tractor Supply Co. in Watertown. Tractor Supply Co. was established in 1938 as a mail-order tractor parts business. Today, it has more than 2,000 stores in 49 states and are committed to being the most dependable supplier of products to home, land and animal owners. It serves farmers, ranchers and all those who enjoy living the rural lifestyle.

Tractor Supply Co. has proudly partnered with the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation through its Paper Clover fundraisers. 100% of funds raised through its spring and fall Paper Clover fundraisers directly benefit 4-H. During this campaign, local 4-H clubs are encouraged to set up displays at the store. Since the inception of the Master Showman Contest at the Jefferson County Fair, Tractor Supply Co. has annually donated the silver belt buckle to the master showman. It also is very supportive of local charities and fundraisers.

On a larger scale, Tractor Supply Co. has supported the National FFA Organization with a T-shirt fundraiser. Proceeds are distributed to FFA chapters across the country, funding agricultural programs and activities for students and alumni in support of the National FFA Convention & Expo. This is the second year of the 'Support the Trades' clothing line to further help close the country's skilled trades gap. Proceeds are donated to SkillsUSA, a nonprofit that serves middle-school, high-school and postsecondary students preparing for careers in trade, technical and skilled service occupations.

Unfortunately, Tractor Supply Co. was unable to accept its award at

the county annual meeting because of an unexpected staffing issue, but I presented the award at another time.

Another one of this year's Service to Ag Awards goes to Theisen's in Jefferson. Theisen's started in 1927 selling batteries and tires in Dubuque, Iowa. In 1987, the family business extended the lineage to a third generation tripling its company. Today, the company not only offers you tires and batteries, but also thousands of other products for your home, farm and automotive needs.

In 2018, Theisen's opened a store in Jefferson. Since this time, Theisen's has played a vital role in the Jefferson County community by supporting our youth. They have made yearly monetary donations to the Jefferson County 4-H program as well as donating a variety of products to support the 4-H program. For example, seed packets were donated and were used as centerpieces at the 4-H Speech Contest.

Another way Theisen's supports our youth is through discounts. As 4-H and FFA members prepare for their fair animal exhibits, purchasing supplies can become costly. To help offset this cost, Theisen's offers a discount for youth purchasing shavings from its store. Donations and discounts like these allow 4-H and FFA staff, teachers and leaders to provide more opportunities for the youth.

On a larger scale, Theisen's regularly gives to organizations that contribute to your well-being. They have supported more than 500 non-profit organizations like FFA, 4-H, Toys for Tots, The Boys & Girls Club, United Way, county fairs, educational programs, local parishes and many more. In 2012, the More for You Grant Program was established to help serve the basic needs of the communities that we call home. To date, this program has donated more than \$2.4 million.

Please join us in congratulating Tractor Supply Co. and Theisen's for receiving this year's Service to Agriculture Awards.



Tractor Supply Co.



Theisen's



Everyone Loves Parades

Board members enjoy being able to pull the float in numerous parades throughout the county.

If you want to see us in your local parade, please contact a board member.



Steve Knoebel drove the float in the Gemuetlichkeit Days parade.



Roger Zimmerman pulled the float in the Town and Country Days parade in Lake Mills.



The float made it to numerous other parades.

4RWI Event Held at Griswold Farm

Wisconsin legislators, state agency representatives and local officials attended an on-farm field day to learn about sustainable farming practices through the Sustainable 4RWI partnership on August 17. Sustainable 4RWI focuses on the 4R approach to nutrient stewardship – using the right nutrient source, at the right rate, at the right time, in the right place – that allows for the achievement of cropping system goals including enhanced environmental protection, increased farmer profitability and improved sustainability.

The field day was hosted by the Griswold family of Taglane Dairy in Ixonia as a partnership between Jefferson County Farm Bureau and Insight FS. Highlights of the day showcased precision planting practices, nutrient management planning, precision nitrogen application and cover crop development, all implemented with 4R principles.

“We value our partnership with Insight FS and are grateful for the opportunity to highlight our shared sustainability goals with legislators and community leaders,” shared Kevin Griswold, owner of Taglane Dairy. “It is important for everyone to work together to be good

conservationists,” said Scott Schultz, Jefferson County Farm Bureau Board member. “We have come a long way and are proud to showcase the great work we are doing.”

Representative Mark Spreitzer, who sits on the Assembly Committee on Agriculture, attended the event.

“It’s great to see what farmers are doing with conservation practices such as cover crops, no-till and precision nitrogen application,” shared Rep. Spreitzer. “These practices help to reduce runoff, improve soil health and improve a farmer’s bottom line.”

One goal of these events is to have these conversations on the farm, while looking directly at the technology, collaborations and the planning that goes into these practices.

“Insight FS is proud to partner with Jefferson County Farm Bureau and the Griswold family to showcase sustainability for our legislators,” said Ben Huber, General Manager of Insight FS. “It is so important to engage elected officials to showcase what we do and why, which is why we collaborate on Sustainable 4RWI.”



Scott Schultz talked about cover crops

Tammy Baldwin Meets with Members



Randy Mitchell was invited to a listening session with Senator Tammy Baldwin on Aug. 13 at the Luke Goesling farm near Whitewater. Photo credit: Christine Spangler.

Jefferson County Board of Directors

Following the Jefferson County Annual Meeting, the board of directors held its re-organizational meeting. The following officers were elected:

- Randy Mitchell, President
- Tony Schadt, Vice President
- Melissa Gross, Secretary and Treasurer

The board meets the fourth Wednesday of the month at the Insight FS office in Jefferson. If you are interested in being involved, contact President Randy Mitchell at 414.899.4822.



The Jefferson County Board of Directors includes: front row (from left): Ashley Schlender, Dawn Jones, Randy Mitchell, Melissa Gross and Lindsay Baneck; back row (from left): Tim Madenwaldt, Steve Jones, Eugene Mess, Tony Schadt, Roger Zimmerman and Steve Knoebel; not pictured: John Morris, Tyler Troiola and Dan Schmocker.

County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting Held



The 101st Kenosha County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting was held on Sept. 27 at Birchwood Grill. There were a total of 19 attendees, 12 voting members.



Carl Daniels presented the board of director and delegate ballot. Voting members also voted on the board of directors and delegates for the state annual meeting. Dan Kevek and Tim Edquist were elected to three-year terms on the board of directors. Kim Muhlenbeck was elected to a one-year term as Promotion and Education chair, and Ryan Edquist was elected to a one-year term as YFA chair. Those elected to be delegates to the WFBF Annual Meeting included: Tim Edquist and Wes Hawkins.

Kenosha County Farm Bureau

officially presents

Evan Beth

with the 2022 Farm Bureau Scholarship



Dave Beth accepted the Kenosha County Farm Bureau scholarship on behalf of his son, Evan Beth, from board member Kim Muhlenbeck.



District 1 Director Dave Daniels reported on behalf of WFBF.



Lou Korth, Rural Mutual Insurance, talked about his role with the company.



District Agency Manager, Jason Bender, reported on behalf of Rural Mutual Insurance Company.



Christopher Bogan, Regional Representative with U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin's office, encouraged attendees to contact him about agriculture issues.

Kenosha County Board of Directors

Following the Kenosha County Annual Meeting, the board of directors held its re-organizational meeting. The following officers were elected:

- Kevin Muhlenbeck, President
- Tim Edquist, Vice President
- Dan Kevek, Secretary and Treasurer

The board meets the fourth Tuesday of the month. If you are interested in being involved, contact President Kevin Muhlenbeck at 262.206.4140.



The board of directors include (from left): Kevin Muhlenbeck, Kim Muhlenbeck, Dan Kevek, Tim Edquist, Ryan Edquist and Wes Hawkins; not pictured: Ben Harbach.

Evan Beth Awarded Scholarship

By Kim Muhlenbeck, Scholarship Committee Chair

Kenosha County Farm Bureau is pleased to announce that Evan Beth received this year's scholarship.

Evan's parents are David and Sharon Beth. He graduated from Westosha Central High School where he ranked 49 out of 289. In high school he maintained a 3.768 GPA and earned an academic letter.

While in high school, Evan participated in wrestling and lettered five times while working part-time at Brighton Dale Links and most recently volunteered with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources where he assisted wildlife biologists and game wardens to capture and release waterfowl.

Evan is currently attending UW Lacrosse for business management.



Annual Meeting Held at Benny's Café

Patti Wilhelme

WFBF District 1 Coordinator

Sixteen members attended the Milwaukee County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting at Benny's Café on Sept. 12.



Dave Daniels, District 1 Director, reported on behalf of the Wisconsin Farm Bureau. He talked about the strategic plan and the priorities of WFBF and also talked about the Volunteers for Agriculture endorsements. District 1 Coordinator, Patti Wilhelme, reported on membership numbers as of the end of August. The essay contest topic and book of the year was announced and she thanked the Rural Mutual agents for helping the county with membership.

Ken Bosman, District Agency Manager for Rural Mutual, mentioned that Rural Mutual received an A+ rating from AM Best for the fifth consecutive year. For 14 consecutive years Rural Mutual also is a Ward's Top 50 insurance company. Rural Mutual did pay farm dividend to farm policy holders.

Those present heard from special guests from Milwaukee Vincent High School. Teachers Monica Gahan and Tyler Foote, along with student Donavan Tubbs, attended the meeting. They talked about the school and thanked the board for their donations. Voting members elected the directors and officers, along with the delegate to the WFBF Annual Meeting.

Watch your mailbox for more information on next year's county annual meeting, we hope more members will be able to join us.

Milwaukee County Board of Directors

During the Milwaukee County Annual Meeting, the following board members were elected:

- Scott Ninnemann, President
- Henry Kiesow, Vice President
- John Napientek, Secretary and Treasurer
- Elroy Honadel, Board of Director

The board meets quarterly. If you are interested in being involved, contact President Scott Ninnemann at 414.617.2960.



Milwaukee County board of directors (from left): Elroy Honadel, Henry Kiesow, John Napientek and Scott Ninnemann.

Racine County

wfbf.com/about/counties/racine
RacineCountyFarmBureau

Three Scholarships Awarded

By Julie Kastenson, Scholarship Committee Chair

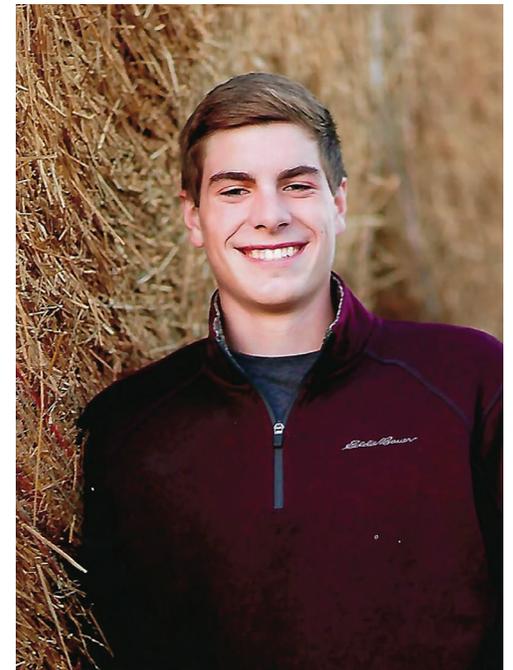
This year the Racine County Farm Bureau awarded three \$1,000 scholarships. Please help us in congratulating the award recipients and wish them the best in their education. Watch the next newsletter for the deadline for the next scholarship application.



Emma Henningfeld is a 2022 graduate of Waterford Union High School. She is the daughter of Tom and Jessie Henningfeld. Emma is Attending UW-Platteville with a major in animal science.



Rachel Kalbas is a 2022 graduate of Union Grove High School. Rachel is attending UW-Madison with a major in biology. She is the daughter of Thomas and Sarah Kalbas.



Michael Schaal is the son of Brian and Renee Schaal. He is a 2022 graduate of Burlington High School and is attending Iowa State University with a major in agribusiness and ag systems.

75th County Annual Meeting Held

By Jim Hanson, County Farm Bureau Secretary

Racine County Farm Bureau held their 75th Annual Meeting on Sept. 11 at River City Lanes in Waterford. Bernie Strueder gave the invocation before we enjoyed a buffet dinner.

Alice in Dairyland, Taylor Schaefer, spoke about her journey as the new Alice. She looks forward to meeting people across Wisconsin while promoting and educating about agriculture.

President John Scott conducted the business meeting. The county Promotion and Education chair, Judy Uhlenhake, reported on scholarship

winners, Racine County's ag ambassador, library grants and the Ag in the Classroom essay contest.

Jeff Rice thanked the volunteers who helped make another successful year in the cream puff stand.

This year, Jeff Rice retired from the board of directors, we thank him for his many years of service to the success of Racine County Farm Bureau. Tim Schmidt is new to the board and taking his director seat.

Elections followed along with resolutions, including a discussion about how to promote safe travel on public roadways.



Bernie Strueder gave the invocation.



President John Scott conducted a great annual meeting.



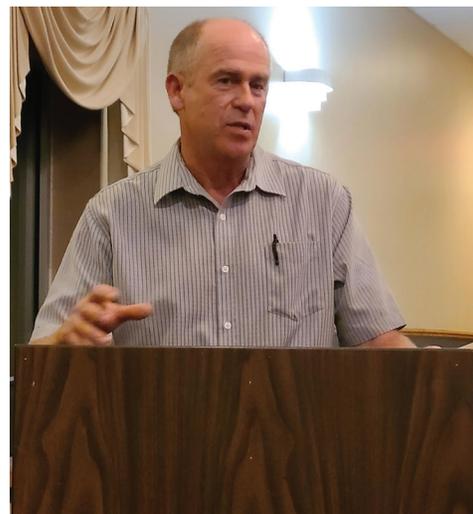
As Vice President, Jim Waldron presented the resolutions.



Taylor Schaefer, Alice in Dairyland, was the guest speaker.



Judy Uhlenhake talked about the promotion and education committee activities.



Jeff Rice gave the cream puff stand report.



The WFBF report was given by District 1 Director Dave Daniels.



The Rural Mutual Insurance report was given by Jason Bender.



Racine County Board of Directors

Following the Racine County Annual Meeting, the board of directors held its re-organizational meeting. The following officers were elected:

- Jim Waldron, President
- John Scott, Vice President
- Jim Hanson, Secretary and Treasurer

The board meets the second Tuesday of the month. If you are interested in being involved, contact President Jim Waldron at 262.206.4025.



Board members include, front row (from left): Jim Hanson, Jim Waldron and John Scott; back row (from left): Tim Schmidt, Keith Jacobson, Scott Davel, Judy Uhlenhake and Kayla Wilson; not pictured: Brian Schaal.

Road Cleanup

By Kayla Wilson, YFA Committee Chair

A big thanks to our YFA volunteers who helped clean up the ditches along highway K at the end of August! This would not be a success without such a giving group of young adults.

If you are interested in helping, please contact me.



Henderson is the New Agriculture Ambassador

By Madysyn Henderson, Agriculture Ambassador



My name is Madysyn Henderson and I will be serving as the 2022-2023 Racine County Agriculture Ambassador. I am very honored to be in this position and want to spark an interest in agriculture in as many people as possible.

I grew up around a farm and showing cattle and pigs at the Racine County Fair and Wisconsin State Fair. I am very involved in 4-H and FFA and love to share my passion of agriculture with others.

I am currently a senior at Union Grove

High School and plan to attend Iowa State University next year to major in agricultural business. I organize an agriculture literacy program with members from my FFA Chapter where we visit local grade schools every week and give an activity regarding all aspects of agriculture. The goal of this is to expand the knowledge of agriculture in young children and get them more involved in the community. I hope to expand this program through being the Racine County Agriculture Ambassador.

As Agriculture Ambassador, I plan to attend all of the Racine County Agriculture events and advocate for all things agriculture. I plan to expand agriculture in the classroom within Racine County and get as many people informed and involved as possible.

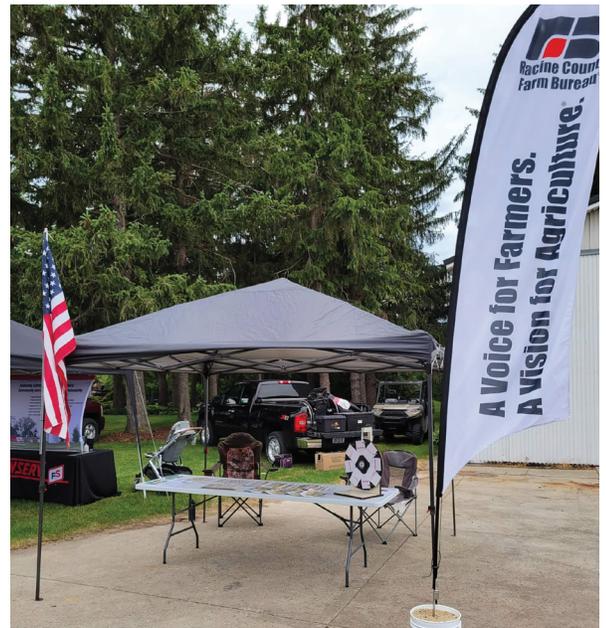
I look forward to serving Racine County this upcoming year as Agriculture Ambassador. I am very excited where this position and journey will take me, and I can't wait to interact with agriculturists from all over Racine County.

Breakfast on the Farm

By Kayla Wilson, YFA Committee Chair

Those who attended the Breakfast on the Farm on June 25 at Malchine Farms were able to stop by the Farm Bureau tent and test their agriculture trivia.

Winners were awarded with some fun prizes.



Thank You County Fair Volunteers

By Jeff Rice, Cream Puff Stand Chair

Thank you to the fair volunteers for helping in this year's cream puff stand.

I want to give a special thank you to a few committee members who put in countless hours to make our stand a success. Scott Davel, thank you for always coming up with new flavors and ideas for the stand. Kelly Malchine, thank you for putting together the volunteer sign up. Kayla Wilson, thank you for coming up with the Puffs with Legs idea. Also I want to thank Judy Uhlenhake for her connections and help throughout

the years.

Our committee is always looking for new and innovative ideas. This year Kayla Wilson had an idea to do an online form to allow people to order cream puffs and pick up each morning – Puffs with Legs. This idea expanded to not only those picking up orders but also those who ordered more than just one cream puff and wanted to take some home.

In addition, I want to thank the day chairs for taking the lead and helping the stand be successful.

I wish the cream puff stand a lot of success, at this time, I have stepped down as the chair of the stand.



Committee chair Jeff Rice, board member Keith Jacobson and Representative Robert Wittke (R-Racine).



Kayla Wilson delivered Puffs with Legs.



Washington County

wfbf.com/about/counties/washington
WashingtonCountyFarmBureau

\$2,250 in Scholarships Awarded

By Ken Falk, Scholarship Committee Chair

This year our committee awarded three, \$750 scholarships, which will be paid once fall semester grades are received. Please help me in congratulating our three scholarship recipients.

Rachel Etta, daughter of Jon and Julie Etta, graduated from Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School and is attending Marquette University. Rachel was involved in the Chess Club, National Honor Society and Kewaskum FFA. Rachel is majoring in civil engineering and wrote on her application, "From a young age, I have always loved math and science and wanted to attend college to pursue a career in STEM."

Kevin Falk, son of Ken and Wendi Falk, graduated from Kewaskum High School. Kevin is attending Moraine Park Technical College to get certification in the four types of welding: MIG, TIG, Stick and Flux-cored. He states on his application that, "The welding courses in high school had a significant impact on me because I was able to discover my calling and gain more knowledge and skills in a very useful trade that there will always be room for employment in."

Eric Schmidt, son of James and Denise Schmidt, graduated from

Hartford Union High School. He grew up on his parents' dairy farm in Rubicon. On Eric's application he mentions that he works at Equipment Rentals, Inc., in Hartford and is, "Strongly involved in my FFA chapter, raise dairy steers for the county fair and have a great passion in my potential post college career in meteorology." Eric was an active member of the Hartford FFA as sentinel twice and secretary his senior year.

If you are a high school senior or college student looking for scholarships, watch your newsletter for next year's scholarship application due in April.



Scholarship award recipients were presented on WTKM at the Washington County Fair. Pictured (from left): Rachel Etta, Kevin Falk and Eric Schmidt.

Members and Fair Volunteers Gather at County Annual Meeting

By Ken Falk, County Farm Bureau Secretary

Washington County Farm Bureau members and fair volunteers gathered at the 79th Washington County Farm Bureau annual meeting on Oct. 4 at The Columbian. There were 144 people in attendance.

Voting members voted on resolutions, along with the board of directors and delegates to the WFBF Annual Meeting. Those who have been elected to the board of directors include: Ken Falk, Tyler Hetebrueg and George Muth. Barbara Schulz Kluever and Mark Schaefer Jr. also were elected to one-year terms for the Promotion and Education committee and YFA committee, respectively.

Delegates to the WFBF Annual Meeting include Ken Falk, George Muth, Peter Muth, Randy Thull and Carl Wolf.

Mariann Gundrum introduced the top three essay contest winners and they each read their winning essay. She also announced the 2023 essay contest theme and book of the year.

The 32nd Friend of Agriculture Award was presented to Bernie Wolf.

Mike Kannenberg presented membership awards and Mike Strupp gave the fair food stand report.

We have one of the largest county annual meetings in the state and are proud of all of our members and fair volunteers.



The essay contest winners read their essays (from left): Marianna Fazzari, Kathryn Sorenson and Amelia Segher.



Father Gregory extended the invocation.



President Peter Muth led a great meeting.



Ken Falk gave the treasurer's report.



Vice President Randy Thull read through the resolutions that were voted on.



Mike Kannenberg presented the elections and gave the membership report.



Mariann Gundrum introduced the essay contest winners.



Carl Wolf presented the Friend of Agriculture Award to Bernie Wolf.



Mike Strupp and Bill Hinckley gave the county fair report.



County Executive Josh Schoemann and Sheriff Marty Schulteis spoke about the anti-crime plan.



Bob Nash, District 1 YFA Committee member, congratulated the county on a great year.



Ken Bosman reported on behalf of Rural Mutual Insurance.



District 1 Director Dave Daniels reported on behalf of WFBF.

Wolf Receives Friend of Agriculture Award

By Carl Wolf, County Farm Bureau Board Member



It was my pleasure to present the Friend of Agriculture Award, this year's award went to Bernie Wolf. Bernie has been employed at Sunset Farms, Inc., since 1975.

Bernie has been employed at Sunset Farms, Inc., since 1975. He is part of the fifth generation of the family farm that was established in 1847. Bernie is current president of Sunset Farms, Inc., and former secretary/treasurer. The farm has hosted the Food for America and Ag in the Classroom students for more than 40 years.

He has been involved with the Washington County Dairy Promotion Committee for the past 20 years and served on the board from 2002 to 2011. Bernie has been co-chair for the Breakfast on the Farm for the past eight years. Sunset Farms has hosted the Breakfast on the Farm in 1998, 2008, 2013 and 2021.

He is a member of the Slinger FFA Alumni. He has served as secretary and vice president. In addition, all of his children were involved in Slinger FFA.

Bernie, and his wife Cindy, have also helped in the Washington County Farm Bureau Food Stand Friday afternoon shift since 2006.

Following in the footsteps of his father and older siblings, Bernie has

been a member of the Allenton Fire Department since 1975.

- EMT since 1981.
- Helps fill the short-staff daytime EMS schedule.
- Only EMT still serving that was on the original group that started the ambulance service.
- Served as EMS leader from 1985 to 2018.
- Has been a leader with EMS Week, Fire Prevention Week and the Allenton Picnic/parade.
- His son, Eric, joined the department in 2004.
- Has received several awards and recognitions for his service to the department.

Bernie has been a member of the Allenton Area Advancement Associate since early 1980s.

He is a lifelong and active member at Resurrection Catholic Parish. He also has been the assistant cook for the church's annual Chili Supper since 2006.

Bernie is a dedicated blood donor through the Versiti Blood Center. He reached a milestone of 440 points or 55 gallons donated as of April 2021 and 58 gallons donated as of September 2022.

Bernie and Cindy celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary in September.

They have three married children: Amy and Tim Baier, Renee and Tony Veit and Eric and Jessie Wolf. They also have six grandchildren: Dylan, Mason, Tessa, Miles, Ava and Emma.

Please help me in congratulating Bernie Wolf, the 32nd Friend of Agriculture Award winner.

Washington County Board of Directors

Following the Washington County Annual Meeting, the board of directors held its re-organizational meeting. The following officers were elected:

- Randy Thull, President
- Mike Kannenberg, Vice President
- Ken Falk, Secretary and Treasurer

The board meets the fourth Thursday of the month. If you are interested in being involved, contact President Randy Thull at 262.483.8204.



Washington County Board of Directors include: front row (from left): Ken Falk, Randy Thull and Mike Kannenberg; back row (from left): Barbara Schulz Kluever, George Muth, Peter Muth, Carl Wolf, Mark Schaefer Jr., Tyler Hetebrueg and John Falk; not pictured: Mark Schaefer.

Thank You Fair Volunteers

By Mike Strupp, Count Fair Stand Co-Chair

Another fair year has gone by and having great weather for our fair, I want to thank our volunteers for their help in this year's fair. Our proceeds were more than \$22,000.

Thank you to co-chair Bill Hinckley, for his dedication for the many hours that he puts in before, during and after the fair. Thank you to Mariann Gundrum and her daughter, Pam, for coordinating the daily scheduling of the volunteers. Thank you to the morning crew who comes in early each morning to receive deliveries and help to get the food stand open. Thank you to the volunteers who stay night after night to clean up and have the food stand cleaned and ready for the next day. Thanks to our shift leaders who kept things running smoothly. Lastly, thank you to our dedicated volunteers, we cannot do this without your help. Your help is greatly appreciated, and we hope to see everyone in 2023.



Thirty-Three Gathered for Annual Meeting

By Ryan Brueggemann, County Farm Bureau Secretary

The 103rd Waukesha County Annual Meeting was held on Sept. 8 at the Machine Shed in Pewaukee. Thirty-three total attendees enjoyed the meal and meeting.

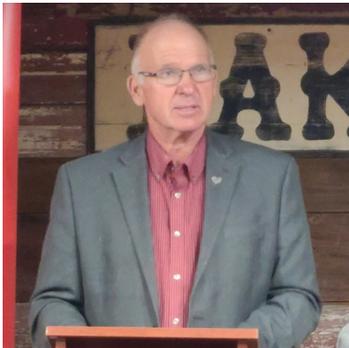
The 15 voting members in attendance voted on the resolutions, elected directors and elected delegates to the WFBF Annual Meeting. Those who were elected to a two-year term include: Don Bartholomew, Ryan Brueggemann, Dan Craig, Chris Mommaerts, Scott Porter, Rob Schuett, Ron Williams and Tony Weber. Jay Moore was elected to a one-year term as Promotion and Education chair, and Brittany Gerrits was elected to a one-year term as YFA chair.



Members enjoyed a delicious meal and wonderful program.

We want to welcome our new board members, Don Bartholomew and Dan Craig. We also want to thank our two board of directors who have retired from the board, Jane Craig and Bob Stigler. We thank you for your years of service on the Waukesha County Farm Bureau board of directors.

We hope that more of you are able to join us in 2023. Mark your calendars for Thursday, Sept. 7, and watch your mailbox for a postcard next summer.



Tom Oberhaus led a great meeting.



Ryan Brueggemann reviewed the financials.



Jim Renn, Vice President, presented the resolutions.



The election portion of the meeting was done by nominating committee chair Ron Williams.



District 1 and WFBF YFA Chair Bob Nash attended the meeting.



The Insight FS report was given by Parker Ludeking.



Jason Bender gave the Rural Mutual Insurance report.



District 1 Director Dave Daniels presented on behalf of WFBF.

Scholarships Announced

By Ken Rosenow, Scholarship Committee Chair

The Waukesha County Farm Bureau scholarship committee was pleased to be able to award scholarships to a number of very worthy students in 2022.

The winners are as follows, in no particular order: James Dowd, Jenna Schulz, Katharine Bugenhagen and Amara Bugenhagen. These outstanding students will receive their awards after the end of the fall semester.

The future of agriculture looks very good with this group of tomorrow's agriculture leaders on the rise, and all coming from our own Waukesha County. If you see any of these students make sure to congratulate them on their commendable achievement.

Look for information on next year's scholarships in upcoming newsletters and on the website, and please encourage any and all post high school students to apply.

Waukesha County Board of Directors

Following the Waukesha County Annual Meeting, the board of directors held its re-organizational meeting. The following officers were elected:

- Tom Oberhaus, President
- Jim Renn, Vice President
- Ryan Brueggemann, Secretary and Treasurer

The board meets the first Thursday of the month. If you are interested in being involved, contact President Tom Oberhaus at 262.337.1386.



The board of directors include (from left): Tom Oberhaus, Ryan Brueggemann, Dan Downing, Don Bartholomew, Sean Beres, Jim Renn, Dave Swan, Dave Morris, Ron Williams and Scott Porter; not pictured: Dan Craig, Brittany Gerrits, Chris Mommaerts, Jay Moore, Charlie Oberhaus, Ken Rosenow, Rob Schuett and Tony Weber.

District 1

Hey Kids,

It's time to color this friendly scarecrow. What color are the pumpkins? the leaves? or the scarecrows pants? Color it yours!





County Farm Bureaus
PO Box 5550 Madison, WI 53705

Address Service Requested

Non Profit
Organization
US Postage
PAID
Platteville, WI 53818
Permit No. 124

**This Issue Contains
Highlights for:**

Jefferson County

Kenosha County

Milwaukee County

Racine County

Washington County

Waukesha County

#1 Farm Insurer in Wisconsin



As leaders in the field, we understand your unique needs and are here when you need us most. It's our promise to protect and rebuild Wisconsin.

Visit RuralMutual.com to learn how we keep our Wisconsin communities strong.

WISCONSIN STRONG

 **Rural Mutual**
Insurance Company