



# Grassroots

District 5 News

## District Director's Report



**Pete Badtke**

District 5 Director

Greetings District 5, I hope all is well with everyone. It has been nice attending your county Farm Bureau meetings. Each county is unique, but they all have one thing in common, Wisconsin agriculture! As director, I have been appointed to the WFBF Board Budget Committee and Board Policy Committee. I also serve on the newly created

WFBF Sustainability Committee. This new committee has met twice so far. The goals are to encourage farmer participation and support for advancing conservation in Wisconsin. Along with collaborating with Extension, NRCS and the DNR, we are developing relationships to build trust between farmers and consumers.

I represented WFBF at the American Farm Bureau convention in San Antonio in January as a voting delegate. WFBF President Brad Olson was elected to a one-year term on the AFBF Board, giving Wisconsin a voice once again on that board. With all the uncertainty in agriculture today, like fair trade, prices and the right to farm, Farm Bureau is a leading voice speaking on behalf of farmers. A few months ago, a lawsuit in Polk County in the town of Eureka challenging the town's authority to regulate livestock agriculture was dismissed due to lack of standing. Similar ordinances are coming forward in

the state. It's very unfortunate that people have forgotten where their food comes from!

Ag Day at the Capitol back in March was well attended with over 400 farmers from all over Wisconsin. I would encourage you to attend next year, as many of us have new legislators since the district lines have changed. We need to share our story of how politics affect our farms and our lives each and every day.

Lastly, we recently held the District 5 leaders meeting. We toured Insight FS in Brandon. The Insight FS mill in Brandon is state of the art, while being built a few years ago, it can handle any size farm with bagged or bulk feed. Mixing is all computerized, which can weigh and dispense ingredients on its own. Recently, they have been installing bin monitors that show a 3-D image of how much feed is used and left in bulk feed bins to coordinate deliveries more efficiently. After the mill tour, we met at Knuth's in Ripon where John Hromyak, the executive director of the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation presented the recently published Impact Report. The foundation is so important to the future of Wisconsin agriculture. Having Farm Bureau members, sponsors and donors involved impacts a lot of people, including farmers and nonfarmers. The programs the Foundation funds are Gather Wisconsin, Collegiate Farm Bureau, 4-H and FFA, Farm Neighbors Care, the Promotion and Education programming as well as the Young Farmer and Agriculturist and the Leadership Institute!

Have a safe planting and summer!

## DISTRICT 5 YFA DISCUSSION MEET

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

6:30PM - DINNER

7:00PM - DISCUSSION MEET

### RIPON HIGH SCHOOL AG ROOM

850 TIGER DRIVE - RIPON, WI

PLEASE RSVP & DIRECT QUESTIONS TO:

DISTRICT 5 YFA REPRESENTATIVE

**VICTORIA SMITH**

608.369.1486 | torigirl9412@gmail.com

"Farmers and ranchers are at the forefront of environmental stewardship.

From soil health to local ecosystems, producers are concerned about how to be both environmentally and financially sustainable. How can farmers and ranchers effectively advance environmental stewardship while balancing the needs of their farms?"



# District 5 News

## Ag Day at the Capitol

On March 26, approximately 400 farmers and agriculturists gathered at the Monona Terrace in Madison for Ag Day at the Capitol.

Ag Day at the Capitol is the largest advocacy day for Wisconsin farmers and agriculturists, bringing together a variety of farm groups to learn more about state issues affecting agriculture and meet with their state legislators.

Attendees were welcomed by Wisconsin Farm Bureau President Brad Olson and listened to remarks from Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection Secretary Randy Romanski. Sec. Romanski shared why it's important to head to the Capitol with ideas on what can be done to positively impact the future of agriculture.

"There is a whole lot more that we agree on than we disagree on, here in this room and at the Capitol," said Sec. Romanski.

"Identify what your priorities are and tell them what you need and then it's up to the folks in that building to get to 'yes'.

Following the Sec. Romanski's remarks, Brian Reisinger, author of *Land Rich, Cash Poor: My Family's Hope and Untold History of the Disappearing American Farmer*, delivered his keynote speech. Complimentary copies of Reisinger's book were distributed to 200 attendees. Reisinger shared his family's

personal farm stories and his thoughts on the persistence and dedication of rural communities, themes that are central to his book.

"That resilience of farm families is what gives me hope. There are a lot of

challenges out there but there are also a lot of opportunities," said Reisinger. "Imagine what we can do if we can make farming work for farm families again."

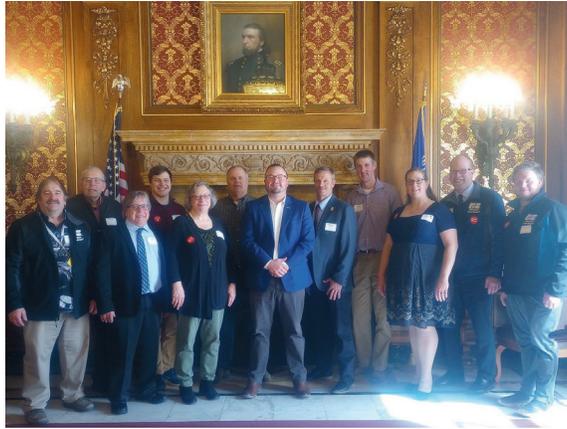
The afternoon program featured a state budget overview by Sen. Howard Marklein and an in-depth discussion of legislative priorities led by WFBF's Executive Director of Government Relations Jason Mugnaini.

Green County Farm Bureau president and farmer Eric Wuthrich gave tips to first time attendees and shared why taking time for advocacy matters.

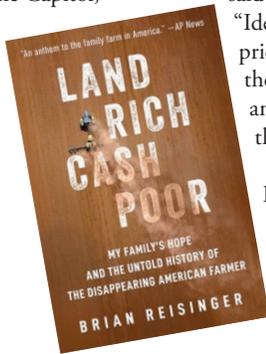
"No matter your role in agriculture, whether you farm, work in agribusiness or simply care about the future of our industry, your voice matters," shared Wuthrich. "Today is your opportunity to make an impact. Be confident, be passionate and share your story with those who shape the policies that affect us all. Because when we speak up together, we ensure a strong future for agriculture."

The program concluded with closing remarks from Sen. Pat Testin and Rep. Clint Moses and a citation awarded from the state agriculture committees for WFBF's recent Pinnacle Award and New Horizon Award from American Farm Bureau.

Following the remarks, attendees walked to the Capitol to meet with their legislators and explore the new Agriculture Showcase on the Capitol Square. The showcase was a public educational exhibit with farm equipment, dairy calves, free cheese samples and more. Inside the Capitol Rotunda, attendees explored Farm Bureau spotlight booths, connected with Wisconsin Ag Coalition partners and tested their skills with a hydraulic sprayer simulator, an interactive video game-like experience.



District 5 Farm Bureau members meeting with Rep. Alex Dallman during Ag Day at the Capitol held March 26.



## Promotion and Education Update



**Jenny Leahy**  
District 5 Promotion and Education Chair

In February, the Promotion and Education committee hosted its first annual Cultivate & Connect conference in Deforest. Cultivate & Connect featured a tour of Sassy Cow Creamery and speakers who focused on sharing the story of farming with consumers. Participants were also given resources that they could utilize at their promotional events. One of the featured resources was a Field to Fork Face Off, which is a Family Feud-style game. Those resources can be found on the WFBF's Promotion and Education page or use the QR code below. Next year's Cultivate & Connect will return to District 5 and be hosted in Neenah.



## YFA Update



**Victoria Smith**  
District 5 YFA Chair

We are planning a YFA event on June 29 at the Timber Rattler game. We are also working on some other district YFA events, and our district discussion meet will be held in early fall. Stay tuned for more details.

**DISTRICT 5 & 6 YFA**  
**Timber Rattlers**  
**BASEBALL GAME & TAILGATE**

June 29, 2025 10:30 AM

**Fox Cities Stadium**  
 2400 N Casaloma Drive  
 Appleton, WI 54913

**PRICE: \$14**

TAILGATE STARTS AT 10:30 AM  
 LUNCH, YARD GAMES & FUN!  
 GATES OPEN AT 11:30 AM  
 (FIRST 1,000 FANS GET A FREE JERSEY!)  
 FIRST PITCH AT 1:10 PM

**Young Farmer and Agriculturist Program**

PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS AT [gofevo.com/event/YFA25](http://gofevo.com/event/YFA25)

QUESTIONS? CONTACT ASHLEY LISOWE AT 920-838-2775 OR [ASHLEY.OBERREICH@GMAIL.COM](mailto:ASHLEY.OBERREICH@GMAIL.COM)

# District 5 News

## Extension Updates



**Adam Hartfiel**  
UW Extension Regional Livestock Educator

Check out these upcoming Extension activities and programs. Reach out to Adam with any questions.  
Adam Hartfiel  
adam.hartfiel@wisc.edu | 920.647.6560

## Save the Date

The 2025 UW-Madison Agronomy and Soils Field Day will take place on August 27 at the Arlington Ag Research Station (N695 Hopkins Rd, Arlington, WI 53911)

## Badger Crop Connect

TIMELY CROP UPDATES FOR WISCONSIN

12:30 p.m. via Zoom

Second and fourth Tuesdays April through October

Register and get email reminders: [go.wisc.edu/BadgerCropConnect](https://go.wisc.edu/BadgerCropConnect)



## Livestock Questions?

**We Have Answers**

[GO.wisc.edu/LST-FB](https://GO.wisc.edu/LST-FB)

## SAVE THE DATE

# COUNTY ANNUAL MEETINGS

Mark your calendar and make plans to attend your county annual meeting this fall. Watch your mail for your official invitation.

August 25 | Waushara County | Silvercryst | Wautoma  
September 6 | Winnebago County | Location TBD  
September 9 | Green Lake County | Farm View Event Barn | Berlin  
September 15 | Fond du Lac County | Avenue 795 | Fond du Lac  
September 20 | Adams & Marquette Counties | Sportsmen Club | Harrisville  
September 25 | Juneau County | American Legion | Mauston

# SUMMER

## FUN

All the counties in the district have some type of food stand at their county fair. Consider volunteering at the Farm Bureau food stand in your county.

| DATE               | COUNTY             | COUNTY FB FOOD STAND CONTACT   |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| JUNE 24-29         | MARQUETTE COUNTY   | VICTORIA WACHHOLZ 608.369.2644 |
| JULY 16-20         | FOND DU LAC COUNTY | JENNY LEAHY 920.979.3213       |
| JULY 30 – AUGUST 3 | WINNEBAGO COUNTY   | RUSS RRIHA 608.436.4764        |
| JULY 31 – AUGUST 3 | GREEN LAKE COUNTY  | STEVE KUTZ 920.229.9767        |
| AUGUST 13 – 17     | JUNEAU COUNTY      | TONRA DEGNER 608.553.1256      |
| AUGUST 14 – 17     | WAUSHARA COUNTY    | PAUL JARVIS 920.229.0637       |
| AUGUST 21 – 24     | ADAMS COUNTY       | KAY OLSON 608.572.1429         |

## President's Message



**Kay Olson**

Adams County Farm Bureau President

April showers bring May flowers, right? It is also a sign that it is time for spring work. Farmers begin in their fields, gardeners are planning their gardens and our greenhouses are open with a variety of plants and flowers for everyone. We can also see many calves being born and dotting our countryside. All are signs

of spring.

This is all also a sign that agricultural equipment will be on our roads moving from field to field and a reminder for all of us that we need to share the road and slow down. You are probably thinking that I put a reminder of this in each of my newsletters and you are right. I will also continue to put this reminder in as long as I see people driving erratically and passing farm equipment unsafely. You are right, this is my pet peeve.

The second part of our Farm Neighbors Care Program will take place in May. We donated a basket to the Moundview Hospital Foundation for them to auction off at their fundraiser dinner. We also donated two baskets to the A-F Powerlifters for them to auction off at their fundraiser dinner. Monetary donations were given to the A-F FFA and Adams County 4-H for their Great Grilled Cheese and Shake event coming up in June. I have included several dates and events coming up in our County so you can include them in your calendar of events.

- 4-H Great Grilled Cheese & Shake event, Saturday, June 7, at the Adams County Fairgrounds

- Adams County Fair, August 21-24, at the Adams County Fairgrounds
- Adams and Marquette County Annual Meeting, Saturday, September 20, Harrisville, Sportsman Club in Marquette County (invites will be sent in the mail)
- Old Farmers Antique Club Fall Festival, September 26-28, at the west end of the Adams County Fairgrounds – FREE GATE
- 4-H Spudtastic SouperBowl, Saturday October 4, at the Adams County Fairgrounds

Scholarships are due on June 30. To request a scholarship form, please email me at kolsonmartz@gmail.com or call 608.572.1429. We offer scholarships for a graduating senior or someone already in college or a Mid-State program who has not already received one in previous years.

I will just mention that the break-in and theft from our ice cream booth last year at the fair is still ongoing. Since our last newsletter, I found out there were four adults, not three. It seems they will just get a slap on the wrist and not charged with anything but an ordinance violation and not theft, criminal damage to property or breaking and entry. We might or might not see any restitution from these four adult individuals. I know I keep saying “adults” and that is because I want everyone to know that “kids” did not do this, as indicated at the time.

In closing, I leave you with this quote:

*“If you can't fly, then run, if you can't run, then walk; if you can't walk, then crawl, but whatever you do, you have to keep moving forward.”* – Martin Luther King Jr.

Wishing you all bright and sunny days ahead.

# Fond du Lac County

## President's Message



**Reuben Hopp**

Fond du Lac County Farm Bureau President

It's planting time! Every year, spring comes. Sometimes early, sometimes late. Some springs are wet, some dry, some cold and some warm. I'm hoping by the time you read this, most of you will have already started planting, or be almost done.

Regardless of the season, our Farm Bureau staff are constantly working for you as members for the betterment of the agriculture industry.

Our government relations staff are busy both here in Madison and Washington, D.C., continually meeting with our representatives to help them understand the needs of Wisconsin farmers and agriculturists.

That's why it's so important for the Farm Bureau to maintain and grow our membership. I'm happy to report that Fond du Lac County met our early bird membership goal by the end of March. A huge thank you to our county membership chair, Steve Sabel, and to all our volunteers who work hard on membership.

Thank you for being a Farm Bureau member. If you have not renewed your membership yet, please do so. We depend on you. Every membership is important. Also, reach out to your family, friends and neighbors and ask them to become part of the Farm Bureau family.

God bless you all.

## Promotion and Education Update



**Jenny Leahy**

District 5 Promotion and Education Chair

Fond du Lac County Farm Bureau participated in Envision Greater Fond du Lac's Ag Showcase in March. The Ag Showcase was hosted on the fairgrounds and focused on connecting with consumers. This year, the Farm Bureau booth featured a playdough activity that demonstrated what materials in playdough come from farms.

Attendees had the opportunity to make playdough in a bag from those farm materials. There was also a raffle drawing for a copy of the Ag in the Classroom book of the year and two winners were selected. In June, the county Farm Bureau will be participating in June Dairy Day in downtown Fond du Lac.





## President's Message



**Pete Badtke**  
Green Lake County Farm Bureau President

Hello Green Lake County members. We have a number of things to be proud of. We met our new membership goal in January. Welcome to all new members and thank you to Chris Retzlaff for signing 19 new members! We held our 3rd annual Farm Bureau Game Night in mid-March with over 30 members attending. New this year, we played the farm version of Family Feud called Field to Fork Face Off. Everyone had fun playing, along with great food and conversations. April 12, we held our 4th annual pork roast dinner in Princeton. This is a nice fundraiser we do, serving close to 300 roast pork meals from 10:30 to

1:00 again this year.

Coming up this summer on July 27, we will have our Farm Bureau Annual Picnic at the fair food stand building. Please plan on attending. It will be nice potluck with great food and we will also have our cornhole tournament with prizes. Also, speaking of our biggest fundraiser, the Green Lake County Fair food stand. If anyone is willing and able to help work in the stand during the fair, it would be greatly appreciated.

Coming up in the next newsletter, we will be announcing our two \$1,000 dollar scholarship winners and the Dave Wilke Memorial \$1,000 winner. We are waiting until the school awards night to present the graduating seniors with the scholarship certificates. Stay tuned.

As always, thanks for your membership and don't be afraid to reach out to me with any agriculture issues. Farm Bureau gives you a voice on the local, state and national level.

## Trillium Hill Dairy Hosts Agriculture in the Classroom Farm Tour

The Green Lake County Women's Committee and Agriculture in the Classroom committee held a farm tour on April 11 at Trillium Hill Dairy near Berlin. Close to 200 students from four area schools attended the tour hosted by the Jones family. Schools that attended included Berlin

Public, Green Lake Public, Peace Lutheran in Green Lake and Christ Along Lutheran Academy in Princeton. Alice in Dairyland also attended the event and gave a presentation to attendees.



## Pork Roast Fundraiser

The 4th Annual Green Lake County Farm Bureau pork roast fundraiser was held Saturday, April 12 at the American Legion in Princeton. Over

275 meals were served. Thank you to everyone who came to the pork roast, all the volunteers and to the Princeton American Legion.



## President's Message



**Kip Weber**  
Juneau County Farm Bureau President

Greetings Juneau County Farm Bureau members. Juneau County Farm Bureau has been busy the past few months. Five members attended Ag Day at the Capitol on March 26. I always enjoy this event. It's a great way to get

face with legislators.

In March, we held our annual wine and cheese tasting event in

Elroy. Thank you to all who attended. We are already thinking about next year's event! This is a great event to visit with people in the community and support local businesses.

This spring, our Agriculture in the Classroom coordinator, Tonra Degner, will be busy with the annual Agriculture in the Classroom essay contest for fourth and fifth graders. And as summer comes, we will be planning for our pie stand at the Juneau County Fair. This is our largest fundraiser, and it helps fund our Agriculture in the Classroom program. So, make plans to attend the Juneau County Fair and stop by our booth for a piece of pie and ice cream!

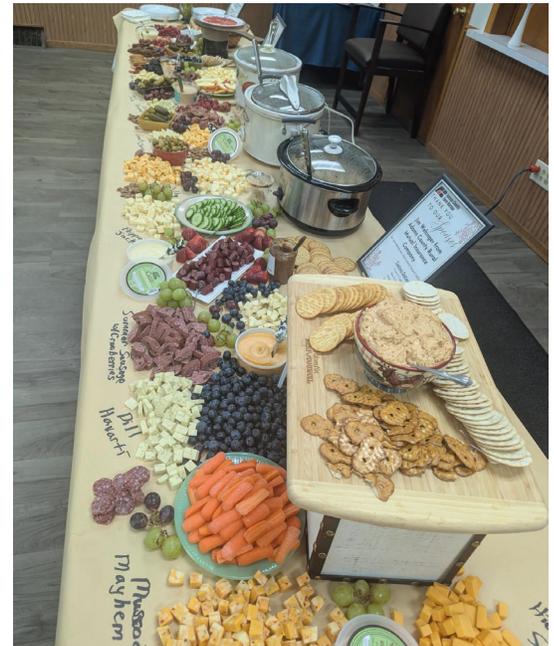
Happy Summer!

## Wine and Cheese Tasting

Amy Vander Mark

On March 1, the Juneau County Farm Bureau held its annual Wine and Cheese event showcasing local wines, cheese, beef and dips/jellies. With over ten flavors of cheese and five flavors of wine to pair with, guests had the opportunity to experience and taste how different notes come out with the different flavors of pairing wine and cheese

together. The county again had a large charcuterie table. This gave our guests the perfect opportunity to see the variety of items and then take notes on their favorite items. This annual event is a favorite of many, including our board! Mark your calendar, next year's wine and cheese tasting event will be on March 7.





## President's Message



**Aaron Wachholz**

Marquette County Farm Bureau President

Hello everyone! Spring is here, and summer will be here before we know it! This time of year is my favorite, and it can be very busy trying to get everything done and planted. Spring brings so many things to be done in a short amount of time. So often, we get trapped in a cycle of anxiety, worry and concern about how to get it

all done. Spring also brings working longer days into the evening to try and get more done. Long, productive days are fun and exhilarating, but don't sacrifice sleep to try to get a few more acres accomplished. Working another hour or two may seem to be a short-term gain, but not really if you are constantly tired and you continue burning the midnight oil night after night. You need to rest and be with your family as well.

We need to take time to check on our friends and neighbors. A quick call or text can go a long way to help brighten another farmer's day. Stay connected with your family. Field changes and long days give way to changed plans. Your spouse and children care about you deeply and want to hear from you.

Farmers are the most valuable asset on the farm. A farm cannot run without a farmer, you are the drive and energy needed to make everything work on a day-to-day basis. Farmers wear hats of many different types and colors, and no one can replace you. Wisconsin agriculture needs every farmer and losing you would be a huge loss. So, take care of yourselves out there. Be intentional in doing the maintenance on yourself so that you are ready to work at a moment's notice, every day and perform at peak efficiency.

God bless and keep you all this growing season.

## Promotion and Education Update

**Vicky Wachholz**

Marquette County Promotion and Education Chair

Hello everyone! Here in Marquette County, we are busy with our Promotion and Education Committee. In February, some of our P&E committee went to Cultivate & Connect, where we got to connect with other P&E committees from around the state. We had an educational time learning how to answer some of the difficult questions that people ask a farmer today.

On April 12, P&E had a booth at Montello's Family Adventure Day where we passed out fun farm swag and craisins, planted marigolds with children and shared information with people about agriculture in Wisconsin. Even in rural Wisconsin, there are still so many people who are removed from where their food comes from. The committee really enjoyed sharing with people how agriculture touches everyone.

This summer, we have some fun and exciting events scheduled. On June 8, we will be having our annual June Dairy Breakfast at Slowey Farms in Westfield. It is exciting to be back on a dairy farm and showcase a state-of-the-art dairy farm. There will be a delicious breakfast served and many activities, including farm tours, music, children's games, bingo, 50/50 raffle and so much more. Our county fair is June 25-29, and we need volunteers for our food stand, so if you would like to volunteer for a few hours, we would appreciate your help. You can either contact me personally to sign up to volunteer for a shift at 608.369.2644 or you can go to this link <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050C45A9AA2FA4FA7-56239958-marquette> to look at the shifts and sign up for one.

In the fall, we are planning on doing a cranberry bog tour. We will see how cranberries are grown, harvested and what it takes to be a cranberry farmer. Stay tuned to find out when and where it will be.

Have a wonderful spring and summer and make sure to continue to tell the story of agriculture!

**June Dairy Breakfast**

**Sunday, June 8**  
**7 a.m. - 12 p.m.**

**Slowey Farms**

**W8106 Evergreen Avenue, Westfield, WI 53964**

**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, farm tour, bingo, 50/50 raffle, music and more!**



## President's Message



**Mike Leahy**  
 Waushara County Farm Bureau President

We reached our new membership goal! I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all those new members and highlight all the exciting opportunities and activities Waushara County Farm Bureau participates in.

First, I would like to highlight some of the benefits your membership offers.

Member benefits range from rebates on Ford vehicles, fitness memberships, hotel stays, car rental programs, equipment discounts from Cash IH, John Deere and Caterpillar. Plus, customizable apparel discounts through Key Apparel.

The Young Farmer and Agriculturist program has been active over the past few months. Miranda Ewald held a bowling social event in late December. They also had a joint event with Green Lake County YFA for trivia night at Knuth's Brewing in Ripon. YFA is for Farm Bureau members between the ages of 18 and 35. It provides members with an opportunity to enhance their leadership skills while networking with their peers. Many of the young members who have participated in the program have gone on to become active county, state and national Farm Bureau leaders, as well as respected leaders in their communities. Follow our

Facebook page, Waushara County Farm Bureau to stay updated on all the happenings this summer!

We had a booth at the most recent Blue Ribbons Kids Day held at Parkside Elementary in Wautoma. Blue Ribbon Kids Day attracts more than 1,000 parents, grandparents and children who learn and practice safety skills, discover area resources and enjoy a morning of free family-focused fun. It is the largest free family event offered in Waushara County. This year P&E chair Lynn Leahy showed the kids about the different soil that makes up Waushara County.

It may not seem like it, but summer will be here before we know it. That means fair season. Operating the food stand at the fair is the primary source of fundraising for this organization. Money raised supports our Agriculture in the Classroom program, YFA program and P&E committee. In addition, the county Farm Bureau provides scholarships, supports youth in local 4-H Clubs and FFA chapters and is committed to conducting programs and activities that promote agriculture in Waushara County. Watch your inbox and mailbox for fair sign-ups in the months to come.

Mark your calendars for the county annual meeting. This year's annual meeting will be August 25 at Silvercyrst. Look for the meeting postcard and event announcement on social media later this summer!

Wishing everyone a safe and speedy planting season.



**SATURDAY**  
 10:00 AM - Vendor setup  
 12:00 PM - Site closed

**SUNDAY**



- 7:00 AM - South gate opens for Vendors
- 7:00 AM - South gate open for Show Cars and Motorcycles
- 8:30 AM - Spectator Gates Open
- 8:30 AM - Bourbon Pull Open, Registration Station
- 10:00 AM - Registration Closes
- 10:00 AM - Dunk Tank - TBD
- 11:00 AM - Dunk Tank - TBD
- 12:00 PM - Dunk Tank - TBD
- 1:00 PM - Dunk Tank Closes
- 1:00 PM - 50/50 Raffle Ticket Sales End / Bag Raffle End
- 1:50 PM - 50/50 Raffle Winner Drawn, Registration Area
- 2:00 PM - Gun Raffle Winner Drawn, Registration Area
- 2:00 PM - Awards
- 3:00 PM - Event Concludes

MORE INFORMATION  
 920-240-6187  
 WAUTOMAFREEMASONS@GMAIL.COM

**NEW LOGIN PROCESS**  
 Member Information and Benefits

We are excited to share that we now have a member interactive database. At the top of wfbf.com, you'll see three buttons: Login, Join, Renew. To create your account and access your member information, you will want to click the login button.

**SCAN THE QR CODES BELOW**

**User Login**

**Member Benefits**

*Young  
Invited!*

## Waushara County June Dairy Breakfast



Sunday June 29, 2025

Sheadview Dairy  
W215 State Road 21  
Berlin, WI 54923

### Blue Ribbon Kids Day

Lynn Leahy

Waushara County Farm Bureau Promotion and Education chair Lynn Leahy attended the county's Blue Ribbon Kids Day. She conducted an Agriculture in the Classroom activity that teaches kids about how dairy cows are fed.

Blue Ribbons Kids Day was held April 12 in Wautoma. Approximately 300 kids attended. It was a free family fun and resource fair. There were plenty of hands-on activities to entertain and educate children, allowing parents a chance to learn more about area resources. Additional exhibits offer healthy snacks, information about childcare, breast feeding, nutrition, parenting, recreation, child development, family activities and other area resources. Nearly 40 organizations are represented. Blue Ribbon Kid's Day is an activity of the Waushara County Department of Human Services.



## Heroes of Hope

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

### NOMINATE A NEIGHBOR

*Do you know a story of farm neighbors helping each other? Perhaps you helped out a neighbor or were helped by a neighbor during a difficult time. Nominate them today as a Hero of Hope!*

*Each month, one person, couple or organization will be recognized for the help they provide in their community.*

Nominations are open  
and can be found at  
<https://bit.ly/FNCHeroHope>



  
#FarmNeighborsCare

## President's Message



**Amanda Volp**  
 Winnebago County Farm Bureau President

Spring has sprung my fellow Farm Bureau friends, and we are getting into the heart of planting. The weather is beginning to warm up again, and the grass is getting greener! My prayer is that everyone has a successful and safe planting

season this spring.

We held our 4th Annual Community Night on February 22 at Brighton Acres. We had roughly 125 people in attendance, and it was encouraging to see all the folks that gathered together within the community, both from rural and urban areas. We started the afternoon with cribbage games, a bamboo spoon wreath activity and beeswax wraps that had people interacting together. Kids enjoyed playing in the corn with toy tractors, coloring farm animals, face painting and completing a scavenger hunt for Culver's custard! Carol and the Keynotes polka band graced us with live music, which drew in a good crowd for watching and dancing. We switched up the food this year and did a tater tot bar, which went over extremely well! We had a total of eight silent auction items, with numerous raffle baskets and a 50/50 raffle that were all generously donated. To top off the night, we had adults and kids of all ages out on the dance floor line dancing the night away to classic music and old country! People sure had some moves! The funds raised at this event will be given back to Winnebago County through our Agriculture in the Classroom program, Young Farmer and Agriculturalist program and helps Farm Bureau be a voice in the agriculture community through policy development. This year, the committee also chose to donate a large portion of the proceeds from the evening to an organization in need. I am proud to say that we were able to raise \$950 for the American Breast Cancer Foundation! Community Night truly brought together everyone for an evening of food, fun, friendship and fundraising!

In February, we sponsored FFA students from the Winneconne and Omro school districts who attended the FFA Farm Forum conference.

On March 26, I attended Ag Day at the Capitol, where board and county members Russ Kriha, Rob Stone and Randi Brooks joined me. This was an opportunity for members to advocate for current agricultural issues with our lobbyists. This is such an important event, and I encourage anyone who can attend to come next year; they need to hear our voices.

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

Here's to a stellar summer! God Bless.

## Leach Amphitheater Free Family Fun Events!



**JUNE DAIRY DAY**  
 Saturday, June 14  
 10 am to 1 pm (FREE)

Bring the kids and family to learn all about the dairy industry

Petting zoo with baby cows and goats! Games, bounce houses, entertainment, & crafts



- Dairy Farmers of Wisconsin
- Farm Bureau
- 4 H
- Local FFA's
- Cheese Factories
- Milk Distributors
- Ice Cream
- Tractors and Farm Equipment



## Winnebago County Farm Bureau®

### GRILLED CHEESE DAY

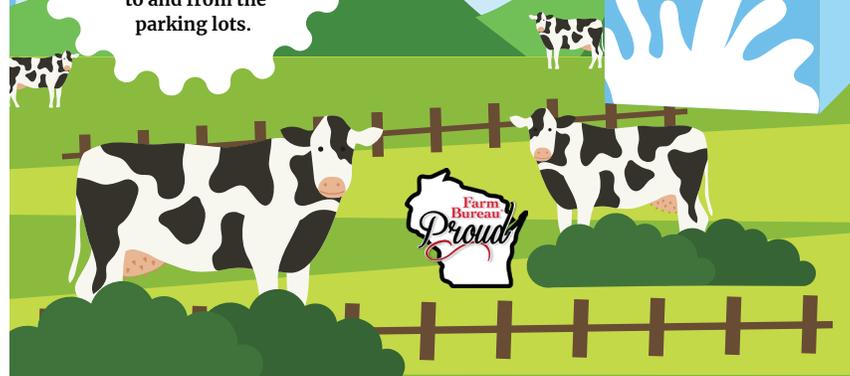
**JUNE 21, 2025**  
**10 AM - 2 PM**



The event is free to attend and we charge \$5 per meal which includes a sandwich, cheese curds, potato chips, milk and custard. There will also be a variety of fun activities and farm tours!

**COME AND SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR LOCAL DAIRY FARMERS!**

Parking will be at the Omro Elementary School (1000 N Webster Street). Buses will run people to and from the parking lots.



### SILVERTHORN FARM

4843 GINNOW ROAD  
 OMRO WI 54963



## Agriculture in the Classroom Update

Rebecca Poppy

Winnebago County Agriculture in the Classroom Coordinator

Hi! Rebecca Poppy here, Agriculture in the Classroom Coordinator for Winnebago County. It has been my pleasure to work with the teachers in the school district of Omro for the last ten years.

On February 18, the FFA students helped me out with a tree lesson for the fourth and fifth graders at OES. We broke the kids up into groups and had the high schoolers write down as many different trees as the fourth and fifth graders could think of. They were very good at this!!!

Then we handed out tree “cookies,” small slices of a tree in the shape of a cookie. There were holes drilled into them so we could put string

through them & make them into necklaces after the kids colored them. Finally, we ended the lesson with tree-shaped, real cookies for a snack.

On March 18, the FFA students once again helped me out for National Ag Day. We went to H.B. Patch and OES to read agricultural kid books to kindergarten through fifth-grade classes. Everyone enjoyed reading.

Next up, collecting all the ag essays and picking a winner for fourth and fifth grades!

Thanks!!

Rebecca Poppy  
Winnebago County AITC Coordinator  
Winnebago County Farm Bureau Director  
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