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AWW Virtual Summit..1-2
Staff Spotlight 3
Farm Neighbors Care.....3
NTW Virtual.....3
FSA Programs 4

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Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

**AGRABILITY OF WISCONSIN
VIRTUAL SUMMIT SCHEDULED
FOR APRIL 13 – 15, 2021
Amanda Harguth, Outreach Specialist**

The 2021 AgrAbility of Wisconsin Virtual Summit will be hosted on Zoom. We are pleased to announce the annual Summit will take place April 13 – 15, 2021, from 11:00 am – 12:00 pm each day. All are welcome to attend at no cost.

This multi-day program gives participants an opportunity to virtually network and learn about resources available through AgrAbility and other Wisconsin programs.

“After having to postpone and then ultimately cancel the 2020 summit because of the Coronavirus Pandemic, we are excited to host our annual summit this year virtually. The speakers and presentations will be very informational and helpful to farmers with and without disabilities,” says Brian Luck, Director of AgrAbility of Wisconsin.

Topics to be covered each day include:

Tuesday, April 13 | FSA: Safety Net Programs, Loan Opportunities with Specifics to Veterans and SDA Farmers

- Speaker Adam Steffen, County Executive Director, Monroe, La Crosse and Juneau Counties

Wednesday, April 14 | Farmer Health Insurance

- Speakers Dr. Florence Becot, National Farm Medicine Center

Thursday, April 15 | Farm Financials and Farmer Wellness with the Wisconsin Farm Center

- Speakers Dan Bauer, Program Supervisor; Jayne Krull, Bureau Director, Ag Resource & Promotion; and Mike Lochner, Financial Consulting & Farm Succession Planning Specialist all with the Wisconsin Farm Center

Registration and event details can be found at: <http://bit.ly/2SVMX5B>

Speaker biographies on next page.

Tuesday, April 13th | FSA: Safety Net Programs, Loan Opportunities with Specifics to Veterans and SDA Farmers

Adam Steffen – County Executive Director, Monroe, La Crosse and Juneau Counties

Adam grew up on a small, 35-head dairy operation in Clark County, Wisconsin. He served for 13 years in the Wisconsin Army National Guard as Infantry Squad Leader in the 1st BN 128th Infantry Regiment. He was deployed to Iraq from 2009-2010. Adam graduated from the University of Wisconsin Stout in Menomonie with a B.S. in Business Administration with a concentration in Leadership and Military Science. Within the Farm Service Agency, Adam worked as a Farm Loan Office for four years before beginning the County Operations Training program, where he then took on his current role as the County Executive Director for Monroe, La Crosse, and Juneau Counties in July of 2020.

Wednesday, April 14th | Farmer Health Insurance

Dr. Florence Becot – National Farm Medicine Center

Florence Becot is a rural sociologist who recently joined the National Farm Medicine Center in Marshfield as an associate research scientist. Florence's research and extension program is focused on the health, quality of life, and economic opportunities for farm families in the US and France. Recent work includes farmers' access to health care and health insurance and mental health. Florence earned her PhD from the Ohio State University and was previously a researcher at the University of Vermont Center for Rural Studies.

Thursday, April 15th | Farm Financials and Farmer Wellness with the Wisconsin Farm Center

Dan Bauer – Program Supervisor, Wisconsin Farm Center

Raised on a dairy farm in central Wisconsin, Dan earned his bachelor's degree in dairy science at UW-Madison. After graduating college in 2006, Dan lived and worked in Ohio for five years managing a member-owned cattle marketing business. Returning to Wisconsin in 2011, he spent over nine years working for several different global dairy genetic organizations with responsibilities ranging from direct sales, international employee training, strategic planning, and project management. Dan now leads the Wisconsin Farm Center as program supervisor. He is passionate about helping his team and its farmer clients achieve their objectives through effective communication, goal setting, and developing action plans.

Jayne Krull – Bureau Director, Ag Resource & Promotion

Jayne Krull works in the Division of Agricultural Development at the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) where she leads the Bureau of Ag Resource & Promotion. Jayne's bureau is made up of the Wisconsin Farm Center, Something Special from Wisconsin, Alice in Dairyland, county and district fairs, agricultural marketing boards, and the cultivated ginseng program. Her background includes 17 years in product management and global service development with GEA Farm Technologies (formerly WestfaliaSurge), a leading dairy/milking and food processing equipment manufacturer based in Naperville, Illinois.

Mike Lochner – Financial Consulting & Farm Succession Planning Specialist

After graduating from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls in 1979, Mike spent the first 15 years of his professional career in the agronomy industry. He then went on to work for more than 20 years in agriculture lending with three different financial organizations. For the past 5+ years, Mike has enjoyed being able to use his vast experience in agriculture finance to provide services through the Wisconsin Farm Center where he helps deliver both financial counseling and transition planning advice to Wisconsin farmers.

AgrAbility National Training Workshop

The NTW has gone virtual

Tuesdays: Through August 30, 2021
12p-1:30p CT

A schedule of the sessions and registration information is available on the NTW tab of the National AgrAbility Project website. AgrAbility.org



Staff Spotlight: Amanda Harguth

Amanda joined the AgrAbility staff in August 2019. As the Outreach Specialist Amanda enrolls new clients and manages existing clients accounts, she also manages the social media accounts, as well as the remaining marketing projects. Prior to the Coronavirus Pandemic she was seen out at many trade shows and hopes to see new and existing clients at them again this summer.

Amanda has as passion for agriculture and marketing and is always looking for ways to connect with Wisconsin farmers and farm families.

Amanda grew up in southeast Minnesota, where her family where her family bred and raised beef show cattle.

Farm Neighbors Care Campaign:

Due to concerns around the COVID-19 pandemic, farm neighbors are encouraged to utilize alternative means to check in on those around them. It is now more important than ever to make sure friends, family members and neighbors are ok and that they have someone to check-in, but we must also protect those who are vulnerable to illness.

Want to learn more about the Farm Neighbors Care campaign, or be included on the email list? Contact Sarah Hetke via email at shetke@wfbf.com or phone at 608.828.5711.

<https://wfbf.com/farm-neighbors-care-campaign/>





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Stay in touch!



Search AgrAbility of Wisconsin and like our page to get news, updates, and the latest from the AgrAbility office.



Search "AgrAbilityWI" and follow us for fun facts, resources, and updates!

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Farm Service Agency Programs

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency (FSA) offers direct and guaranteed loans to farmers and ranchers to promote, build and sustain family farms for a thriving agricultural economy.

Farm ownership, operating, and emergency loans are available under the Direct Loan Program. Farm ownership, operating, and conservation loans are available under the Guaranteed Loan Program. FSA offers two types of guarantees under the Land Contract Guarantee Program.

The goal of FSA's farm loan programs is to help farmers and ranchers obtain commercial credit.

To learn more about FSA and their programs reach out to anyone on our team.



Are you interested in
learning more about
FSA loan programs?

We can help.