

Marathon County Farm Bureau

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David Meihak - District Manager

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

Little Britches Shows Set for Fair Season – Sign Up Today!

Have you ever wondered how a fair animal is shown?

On **Sunday, August 3** and **Saturday, August 16**, youth from around the county learn about dairy cattle showmanship through the Marathon County Farm Bureau's (MCFB) Little Britches Showmanship.

The **August 3** event will be held at the tent outside of the youth building on the Wisconsin Valley Fairgrounds at noon, with two age classes for youth to participate in:

- 5-6 years of age
- 7-8 years of age

The **August 16** event will be held at the livestock pavilion on the Athens Fairgrounds at noon. The two age classes for youth to participate in are:

- 5-7 years of age
- 8-10 years of age

Animals no older than five months will be provided for the youth who participate. Participants will receive a t-shirt, photo with a calf and a medallion for their efforts.

Youth must register for the August 3 event by July 23 and August 16 event by August 3. Registration materials are available on the MCFB webpage wbf.com/countyfarmbureaus/marathon or by contacting Mike Borchardt at 715.897.5356.

Marathon County Holstein Breeders and Marathon County Farm Bureau are major sponsors of the shows. Thank you for your support of this program!



Farm Service Agency County Committee Nomination Period Closes August 1

The nomination period for local Farm Service Agency (FSA) county committees began Sunday, June 15.

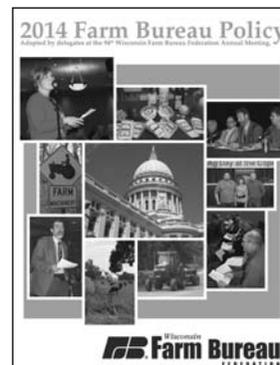
This year's election is being held for the townships of Texas, Hewitt, Harrison, Wausau, Easton, Plover, Weston, Ringle, Norrie, Kronenwetter, Reid, Elderon, Knowlton, Guenther, Bevent and Franzen which comprise local administrative area (LAA) #3.

To become a candidate, an eligible individual must sign the nomination form, FSA-669A. The form and other information about FSA county committee elections are available at www.fsa.usda.gov/elections. Nomination forms for the election must be postmarked or received in the local USDA Service Center by close of business on August 1. Elections will take place this fall.

Contact your local FSA office at 715.848.2330 if you are interested in serving on the local FSA County Committee.

District 8 Policy Meeting

SAVE the DATE Please join your fellow Farm Bureau members from District 8 for a night of policy discussion **Thursday, August 21**. We will be meeting at El Norteno in Curtis at 7:30 p.m. to discuss proposed changes to WFBF policy. Please bring a friend and ideas to this meeting. Have a question about a WFBF policy? You can view it online at wbf.com/legislative/policy.





COUNTYnews

MARATHON COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION

Marathon County Farm Bureau Awards Scholarships



Maria

The Marathon County Farm Bureau is pleased to announce the latest recipients of their 2014 scholarships.

This year's recipients are Maria M. Filtz Lewandowski and Marissa Nechuta. Lewandowski is attending Northcentral Technical College pursuing an associate's degree in dairy science and agri-business and will later seek a bachelor's degree in animal science. Nechuta will be attending UW-River Falls majoring in horticulture.

Marathon County Farm Bureau would like to congratulate its scholarship winners for their hard work and encourage them to stay active in agriculture.

Congratulations Maria and Marissa!



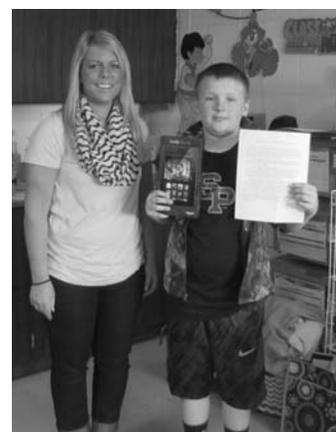
Marissa

Marathon County's Ag in the Classroom Essay Winner Announced

First place in the county competition was Kyler Bainer. Kyler was awarded a Kindle Fire for his winning essay. Lydia Nieman was awarded a \$25 gift certificate to Culver's for second place.

As part of their prizes for winning the county contest their entire class was awarded an ice cream party and tickets to the Wisconsin Woodchucks baseball game. Both students were in Mrs. Miller's fifth grade class at Spencer Elementary.

Kiki Liss-s'-Gravemade received honorable mention and earned a \$25 gift certificate to Culver's.



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Learn. Lead. Succeed - YFA DC Fly In

Learn. Lead. Succeed. is a quote I heard when I was in FFA in 2005. It fit well with the experience I had taking part in the Young Farmer and Agriculturist Washington D.C. trip. What I learned is how critical it is to have our voice heard on the issues that affect our nation and farmers. During the trip we attended various briefings on issues that directly impacted how we farm. We also learned what we as a Farm Bureau members can and must do, so that we can continue to provide healthy and nutritious food for the world well into the future.

Farm Bureau gives us a chance to lead by guiding us to be a voice for agriculture. It helps guide us in being a unified voice for issues that impact our way of life. As we met with various representatives and their office staff, we were able to tell our story. We were able to share stories of how current issues impact our farms, businesses and overall livelihoods.

In the end we all succeed because we do what few have done. We told our story on the steps of our nation's capitol. We gave a face to Wisconsin agriculture and how the decisions in D.C. affect our way of life.

William Litzer
Marathon County Farm Bureau YFA Member



President's Message



Just a few months ago we were all wondering if winter was ever going to end and we could hardly wait for the warmer weather to come. Then in the middle of June some were still waiting to plant due to the wet spring.

Some corn was knee-high by the middle of June, so that's better than what it was last year at this time. Some farmers told me that the first crop of hay wasn't what it should have been, but the

second crop looked better. It was really hard for those making dry hay to get it dried.

Fair season is almost here, and as a reminder the ice cream stand at the Wisconsin Valley Fair is our major fundraiser so please patronize it if you are at the fair. We are always looking for help in the stand so if you could help let any of the board directors know. Money made at the stand goes to fund our programs.

At the middle of June the price of gas was \$3.69 per gallon. This makes Farm Technology Days, August 12-14, being hosted in Portage County that much better.

Bill Mueller
Marathon County Farm Bureau President

Marathon County Farm Bureau Teams-Up with PPA for Dairy Night at the Woodchucks



On Friday, June 20, Dairy Night at the Wisconsin Woodchucks was sponsored by Marathon County Farm Bureau and the Partnership for Progressive Agriculture. Fans were treated to dairy trivia, prizes, a cheese curd eating contest and spectacular fireworks after the game. Marathon County Farm Bureau members

received free tickets to the game and enjoyed a great evening of baseball, friendship and fun.

Marathon County YFA hosted the 2nd Annual Night at the Woodchucks the same evening. YFA members from across District 8 came to enjoy the dairy-themed celebration on the party deck.

Thank you to all members who came out to the game to celebrate June Dairy Month!



Leopold Conservation Award Seeks Nominees

Sand County Foundation and Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation are accepting applications for the \$10,000 Leopold Conservation Award, which honors Wisconsin farmers who demonstrate exemplary stewardship and management of natural resources.

Applications are due by August 1, 2014. Finalists and winner will be announced in late 2014. Visit www.leopoldconservationaward.org for complete application information.



"Through this partnership, we have been able to recognize the conservation efforts of outstanding Wisconsin agricultural producers who have built a strong tradition of sustainable agriculture," said Brent Haglund, Ph.D., Sand County Foundation President. "We look forward to honoring more landowners who are committed to the enhancement of Wisconsin's landscape."



Dick and Kim Cates of Cates Family Farm, a grass-fed beef enterprise near Spring Green in Iowa County, were the 2013 Leopold Conservation Award recipients.

Given in honor of Aldo Leopold's Land Ethic, the Leopold Conservation Award recognizes extraordinary achievement in voluntary conservation on working lands, inspires other landowners through these examples and provides a visible forum where leaders from the agricultural community are recognized as conservation leaders outside of the industry. In his influential book, "A Sand County Almanac" (1949), Leopold called for an ethical relationship between people and the land they own and manage, which he called "an evolutionary possibility and an ecological necessity."

"The Wisconsin Farm Bureau is proud to join Sand County Foundation in saluting the innovative conservation practices and work that Wisconsin farmers do each day to enhance our environment," said Jim Holte, Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation President.

The Leopold Conservation Award in Wisconsin is made possible through the generous support of Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation, Farm Credit, DuPont Pioneer, The Mosaic Company, The Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation, American Transmission Company, Badgerland Financial, We Energies, Alliant Energy Foundation and the Wisconsin Corn Growers Association.

YFA Conference Rural Mutual Sponsorship Opportunity

The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation's Young Farmer and Agriculturist (YFA) Conference will be held December 5-7 at the Kalahari Resort and Convention Center in Wisconsin Dells.



If you've never attended this event before, Rural Mutual Insurance wants to sponsor you and your family. Just complete the sponsorship application that can be found at wfbf.com by searching 'YFA Conference'. You may apply as an individual or as a couple. Don't delay – only 50 double-occupancy rooms are available, and the deadline to apply is **August 15!**

Want to get away?

The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation's Young Farmer and Agriculturist (YFA) Conference will be held **December 5-7, 2014** at the Kalahari Resort and Convention Center in Wisconsin Dells. Make plans now to join other YFA members for this exciting event!

Top-notch speakers, great entertainment, a unique networking opportunity and a weekend of family fun – and you are invited to attend, as our guest!



There are Benefits to Your Farm Bureau Membership:

Auto	Communication	Financial
• General Motors Discount	• AgriVisor	• AgriPlan Medical Reimbursement Program
Health	• The Country Today	• Farm Bureau Bank
• ScriptSave® Prescription Drug Savings Card	Insurance	Protection
• Stroke Detection Plus	• Rural Mutual Insurance Company	• \$500 Reward Protection Program
Supplies and Products	• Farm Bureau Financial Services	• Accidental Death Policy
• Case IH	Travel	
• FS-GROWMARK Patronage	• AAA	
• Grainger	• AVIS Car Rental Discount Program	
• Polaris (NEW)	• Choice Hotels International, Inc.	
• Office Depot	• Wyndham Hotel Group	

For complete details visit wfbf.com/benefits-membership.

What Do the Wisconsin Valley Fair and Marathon County Farm Bureau Ice Cream Stand have in Common?



... They both want to see you there! Marathon County Farm Bureau directors are looking for volunteers to help in the county's ice cream stand. This is the county's main source of fundraising for their events, scholarships and donations to area programs.

Check out Valley Fair's entertainment lineup and then reach out to the directors listed below and let them know what shift works best for you!

Date:	Entertainment	Director	Director	Director
Tuesday, July 29	Josh Thompson	Mike Borchardt 715.352.2448	Jim Riehle 715.675.6111	
Wednesday, July 30	Thomas Rhett	Bill Mueller 715.675.3489	Sam Zimmerman 715.218.8619	
Thursday, July 31	Skillert	Mark Zimmerman 715.571.5512	Beth Schaefer 608.577.6845	Lindsey Buettner 715.680.1003
Friday, August 1	Theory of a Deadman	Ryan Prahll 715.842.7167	Steve Schmidt 715.536.8153	Eric Vogel 715.539.3781
Saturday, August 2	Joe Nichols	Randy Wokatsch 715.443.2457	Chad Erickson 715.352.3589	Nikki De Jong 715.379.6861
Sunday, August 3	Demo Derby	Joe Kaiser 715.218.1298	Shannon Boschma 715.330.4450	

Marathon County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, William Mueller	715.675.3489
Vice President, Steve Schmidt	715.536.8153
Secretary & Women's, Nikki De Jong	715.379.6861
Treasurer, Beth Schaefer	608.577.6845
YFA Chair, Shannon Boschma	715.205.2655
AITC Coordinator, Lindsey Buettner	715.680.1003

Director, Michael Borchardt	715.897.5356
Director, Chad Erickson	715.352.3589
Director, Joe Kaiser	715.218.1298
Director, Ryan Prahll	715.842.7167
Director, James Riehle	715.675.6111
Director, Eric Vogel	715.539.3781
Director, Randel Wokatsch	715.443.2457
Director, Mark Zimmerman	715.571.5512
Director, Sam Zimmermann	715.218.8619

Marathon County Farm Bureau	877.583.5880
District 8 Coordinator, Ashleigh Calaway	866.355.7348
WFBF Board Director, Donald Radtke	715.539.2892
RMIC District Manager, Dave Meihak	715.344.6220

New District 8 Coordinator



Ashleigh Calaway has been hired by the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation as the new district coordinator in north-central Wisconsin.

Calaway will be responsible for working with county Farm Bureaus to develop and implement programs to serve Farm Bureau members and to coordinate membership recruitment and retention efforts.

"I am extremely excited to start this new journey in life. I can't imagine working with a better group of people and being able to share my passion for agriculture and inspire members to advocate for our way of life and enjoy all that Farm Bureau has to offer," Calaway said.

Calaway will serve Farm Bureau's District 8, which includes the counties of Clark, Lincoln, Marathon, Price, Portage, Taylor and Wood. Calaway began her duties on May 27.

"Ashleigh's previous work experience in the areas of program development, volunteer recruitment and training, and her diverse experience as a Farm Bureau volunteer make her an ideal fit for this position," said Bob Leege, Wisconsin Farm Bureau's Executive Director of Member Relations.

Calaway grew up in Lafayette County and is a graduate of UW-River Falls with a degree in agricultural education. She recently worked as a community development coordinator for Girl Scouts, coordinating member recruitment and leadership training for 300 adult volunteers and 775 girls throughout central Wisconsin.

Along with her husband, Josh, she served on the Wisconsin Farm Bureau's Young Farmer and Agriculturist Committee, representing District 8. Ashleigh will work from her home near Vesper in Wood County, where she and Josh own a beef farm.

She replaces Lindsey Prahll, who stepped down from her role at Farm Bureau to farm full-time with her husband, Ryan.

2014 Annual Meeting
December 5-8

INNOVATE
EDUCATE
MOTIVATE

Kalahari Resort and Conference Center, Wisconsin Dells

95th Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation Annual Meeting
80th Rural Mutual Insurance Company Annual Meeting
Young Farmer and Agriculturist Conference

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

WFBF Seeks Rural Route Photos

Wisconsin Farm Bureau members live and work on some of the most beautiful pieces of land. WFBF would like to highlight those sights and special moments with your families and friends in the *Rural Route* magazine.



Please email your photos (high resolution jpgs, 4x6 inches at 300 dpi) to lsiekmann@wfbf.com.



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