

Wood County Farm Bureau

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For information about home or auto insurance,
contact your local Rural Mutual agent.
Rural Mutual Agents in Wood County:

Joseph Grant	Brad Kreklau
Tim Comeau	Jennifer Howen
(715) 421-5880	(715) 384-2826

David Meihak, District Manager - (715) 630-4801

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

Wood County Farm Bureau SUMMER PICNIC and THE WONDER OF WATER



Join Us...

for Wood County
Farm Bureau's
Summer Picnic

WHEN: Sunday, July 17 • noon

WHERE: North Wood County Park • 7500C Park Lane, Arpin
*North Wood County Park is located five miles north of
Highway 73 and 80 on County Highway A.*

WHAT TO BRING: Members with the last name A-M are
asked to bring desserts to pass and N-Z
are asked to bring a salad or hot dish.
Bring a non Farm Bureau friend and get
entered into a drawing for a prize.

WHAT'S PROVIDED: Meat, beverages and tableware.

RSVP BY JULY 14
to
Ashleigh Calaway
at 866.355.7348 or
acalaway@wfbf.com

Watch for Ag Transportation Tidbits on WFBF's Facebook Page

Now that the implements of husbandry (IOH) trilogy is complete, but yet so many questions still remain, there has been discussion of creating a Wisconsin agriculture transportation guide book.

WFBF Senior Director of Governmental Relations Rob Richard and Cheryl Skjolaas of UW Extension, are working with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation to write this guide book with a goal of completing it by September 1.

In preparation for the guide book, WFBF has been rolling out 'Today's Ag Transportation Tidbit' on social media.

For other tidbits from WFBF's 'Today's Ag Transportation Tidbit', visit facebook.com/WIFarmBureau.





COUNTYnews

WOOD COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION

Wood County Ag in the Classroom Essay Contest Winner

Lauren McCann, Wood County Ag in the Classroom coordinator

What an exciting spring it was in the world of Ag in the Classroom. This was my first time coordinating a county essay contest and my goal was to meet with one teacher from every school and deliver the book of the year. Although I didn't meet my goal, I made connections. Thank you to the teachers and students who submitted essays. We received almost 70 essays from Wood County schools.

The Ag in the Classroom's essay contest is based on a book chosen by WFBF and in Wood County, the book is provided to fourth and fifth grade teachers. The theme was 'Tell us about producing maple syrup in Wisconsin' based on *Sugarbush Springs*, a book about the process of making maple syrup.

Wood County Farm Bureau partnered with Jennifer Howen and Brad Kreklau from the Marshfield Rural Mutual Insurance office along with Tim Comeau and Joe Grant from the Wisconsin Rapids Rural Mutual Insurance office. Thanks to their generosity, we awarded the winner a Kindle Fire, an ice cream party for her class and a \$20 Culver's gift card for the second place winner.

The winning essay was by Eleora Kaplan, a fourth grade student at Lincoln Elementary in Marshfield. Her teacher received a tote filled with Ag in the Classroom curriculum, past books of the year, post-



ers and material from the Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board and the Beef Checkoff Program. Materials for the tote were purchased with funds from the Wood County Farm Bureau and a matching grant received from the Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom program.

The second place winner was Mckenna Fulton from Grove Elementary in Wisconsin Rapids.

For more information, please visit wisagclassroom.org or contact Lauren McCann at lauren.l.mccann@outlook.com.

Farm Bureau Proud Club Members

Membership is the key to a healthy and growing organization.

Below is a list of members leading the charge for the 2016 membership year.

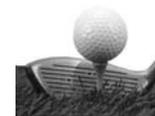
- Brad Weber, five new members
- Loren Scheunemann, five new members
- Ray Maciejewski, five new members
- Josh Calaway, five new members
- Lauren McCann, three new members
- Charlie Fox, two new members
- Sarah Pidgeon, one new member
- Evan Hoffarth, one new member



Register Now for the Wisconsin Ag Open

This year's Wisconsin Ag Open will be held on **September 12** at Christmas Mountain Village in Wisconsin Dells.

For more information, visit wfbf.com/aboutwfbf/foundation/wisconsin-ag-open.



We Want You! Apply by July 1

Excellence in Agriculture

The Excellence in Agriculture Award judges participants on their involvement in agriculture, leadership ability, involvement and participation in Farm Bureau and other civic and service organizations. Applicants must have derived a majority of their income from a non-production agribusiness enterprise for the past three years.

Achievement Award

The Achievement Award judges participants on their involvement in agriculture, leadership ability, involvement and participation in Farm Bureau and other civic and service organizations. Applicants must have derived a majority of their income from on farm production for the past three years.

The WFB Program is funded by for Farming's Future (WFB Foundation)

Get your application here: bit.ly/WIYFAContests
or contact Brad Weber at 715.650.1542.

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Local Wood County Veteran, Farmer, Wood County Farm Bureau Director Receives the Trip of a Lifetime

Our military veterans who serve our country provide Americans the freedom we enjoy.

In 2015, as a tribute to these noble individuals, Wood County Farm Bureau donated \$500 towards the Never Forgotten Honor Flight to Washington, D.C.

After almost three years of being on the waiting list, Navy Veteran (1964-1976) and Wood County Farm Bureau director Clarence Boerboom was selected to travel on April 18 with 95 other veterans to Washington, D.C.

This one-day flight departed from central Wisconsin's airport in Mosinee and landed in Washington, D.C. The veterans and travel companions toured the memorials built in their honor.

All costs of the trip are covered by donations from individuals and sponsors.

Clarence expressed his deep gratitude towards being sponsored for this once-in-a-lifetime experience.



(L-R) Marv Kohlbeck, Ray Maciejewski and Clarence Boerboom.

2016 District 8 Young Farmer and Agriculturist Farm Tour

By Shannon Boschma, Marathon County YFA Chair



Young Farmer and Agriculturist members from District 8 gathered on April 1 to enjoy a day of learning in central Wisconsin.

Our first tour was at H&S Manufacturing in Marshfield. We learned about the business history and building philosophies of H&S from tour host Ron Zygarlicke. We also enjoyed a tour of the manufacturing plant.

From there we went to the Marshfield Agricultural Research Station auditorium to listen to an insightful presentation from staff with the

National Farm Medicine Center regarding farm safety topics and training. While there we enjoyed lunch sponsored by the National Farm Medicine Center and WFBF YFA.

Our next tour was Seehafer's Farm and Creamery in Marshfield. We learned about their agri-tourism venture in starting a creamery on-farm from Nikki Seehafer. Staff from the National Farm Medicine Center also presented some key points to consider when welcoming visitors on farm.

Joey Ploeckelman gave a tour of the dairy farm and answered questions about milking practices, feed mixes and calf-heifer raising.

The last tour was at the UW-Marshfield Agricultural Research Station Farm in Stratford. Nancy Esser and Will Cordes presented the group with a lot of interesting information regarding what kinds of trials are conducted on UW research farms, why those trials take place and how dairy farms use and benefit from their findings.

Thank you to the tour hosts: H&S Manufacturing, Seehafer's and Marshfield Agricultural Research Station, the guest speaker from the National Farm Medicine Center and to everyone who participated in the tour. We hope you enjoyed the tour and found it informational.



Waupun FFA Wins My American Farm Outreach Grant

The American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture announced the 10 schools receiving the \$1,500 My American Farm Outreach Grants. They are:

- Cassia High School, Burley, Idaho
- Christian Academy of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky
- Cumberland Valley FFA, Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania
- Elk Grove High School Agriculture Department, Elk Grove, California
- Linn-Mar FFA Chapter, Marion, Iowa
- McArthur FFA, Hollywood, Florida
- North Iredell High School, Olin, North Carolina
- Ponchatoula High School FFA Chapter and Agriscience Department, Ponchatoula, Louisiana
- Sonora High School FFA, Sonora, California
- **Waupun Area High School FFA, Waupun, Wisconsin**

The winning schools had to be located in an urban area and capable of reaching at least 400 elementary students with an outreach event using resources found online at myamericanfarm.org.

Outreach events must incorporate one My American Farm interactive game, one lesson plan and one video from the set of available resources. Classrooms also are encouraged to bring in a community or industry representative to share how agriculture affects their everyday lives.

Upon completion of the outreach events, schools will receive \$1,500 to further their agricultural literacy outreach efforts.

The My American Farm educational resource is a special project of the American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture. The site and resources are made possible through the generous support of title sponsor, DuPont Pioneer.

For more information and to use the available My American Farm resources, games and activities, please visit myamericanfarm.org.



2016 Wood County Farm Bureau Scholarship

Wood County Farm Bureau was honored to handout \$1,500 worth of scholarships to graduating high school seniors across Wood County.

If you know of a high school senior looking to pursue higher education in 2017, please encourage them to complete the scholarship application.



Emily Brockman is the daughter of Warren and Jennifer Brockman of Wisconsin Rapids. She will attend UW-Marshfield-Wood County to pursue a degree in agronomy.



Miranda Ortner is the daughter of Joseph and Marcella Ortner of Pittsville. She will attend UW-Eau Claire to pursue a degree in nursing.



Cody Kohls is the son of Dave and Diane Kohls of Vesper. He will attend UW-La Crosse to pursue a degree in physical therapy.

Wood County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Charles Fox	715.569.4781
Vice President, Josh Calaway	715.781.1220
Vice President, Dale Denk	715.652.2143
Secretary/Treasurer, Loren Scheuneman	715.569.4455
Women's Chair, Kaitlin Hartkopf	763.268.9722
YFA Chair, Brad Weber	715.676.2476

Director, Jason Behrend	715.451.2291
Director, Clarence Boerboom	715.305.4934
Director, Cindy Hardy	715.305.3836
Director, Dustin Huser	715.213.7693
Director, Raphael Maciejewski	715.435.3745

Wood County Farm Bureau	877.583.6897
District 8 Coordinator, Ashleigh Calaway	866.355.7348
WFBF Board Director, Donald Radtke	715.539.2892
RMIC District Manager, Dave Meihak	715.344.6220

Wood County YFA Update

Planning is underway for summer activities. Below is a short list of what is planned for the summer:

July

1 Excellence in Ag and Achievement Award applications due.

August

6-7 County YFA fundraising: We are looking for recruits to help with the YFA ice cream fundraiser at Arpin Pulls at Kandy Kane Park in Arpin.

28 District 8 Discussion Meet at Abbyland Truck Stop in Curtiss. If you are interested in competing in the statewide YFA contests, please contact Brad Weber at 715.650.1542 or follow Wood County YFA on Facebook.



The Value of Wisconsin Farm Bureau

By Miranda Ortner, 2016 Scholarship Application Essay

I am very lucky to have grown up on a dairy farm all my life and brought up in 4-H. These things have brought intense value to the way I perceive things in life. It has been a rewarding way of life, teaching me hard work ethic and humbleness.

I treasure the opportunities I get to participate in the Central Wisconsin State Fair, or assist in farm work with my parents. Seeing the time and passion that goes into agriculture has influenced me to find my passion and use the dedication to succeed in life. Being a member of the Wisconsin Farm Bureau has enabled my family's dairy farm to succeed and continue for generations to come. The strength of being in a rural community will be the advantage I will have in college to succeed.

The Wisconsin Farm Bureau assesses much of my family's living and the communities around me. For me, it helps my parents and my own future keeping the farm a priority in Wisconsin. Without it, our individual voices may not be heard. It also helps large and small farmers to reach our goals and keep us alive. Not only that but this helps our local economy, making rural Wisconsin a better place to live.

In addition to preserving farms, the Wisconsin Farm Bureau supports the growth of agriculture. To do this they incorporate themselves in organizations that people my age can participate in. Whether it is 4-H, FFA, or at the Central Wisconsin State Fair, the value this has affects individuals like me who are deciding on their own careers and what he or she does with his or her life. It is important for keeping people aware of this industry and the dedication it takes.

Agriculture is not something we should take for granted. Luckily, organizations like the Wisconsin Farm Bureau have stepped up to protect our rights. As a member, I am proud to be part of something that is essential to Wisconsin. In order to keep farms growing, people interested, skills like I have learned, and a better place to live, the Farm Bureau is crucial. I am thankful for my upbringings and hope to share my nature of integrity with my future children. I will also show my gratitude to organizations like this by giving back in my own community someday. Knowing that people support me and my farm will help me achieve my goals and never forget the foundation of my farm life.

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation's Institute Graduates Talk Ag on Capitol Hill

Farm Bureau leaders became lobbyists for a day while meeting with Wisconsin's congressional delegation in Washington, D.C., on April 13-14. The issues discussed were trade, immigration, wolves, food labeling and the farm economy. Graduates of the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation's Institute leadership course were joined on Capitol Hill by the Wisconsin Farm Bureau's Board of Directors. The trip marked the completion of the Institute, a year-long leadership training program available to Farm Bureau members.

"Being aware of political changes and how they can or will affect my farm and life are important to me. The Institute has helped me to think outside of the box when talking with my representatives. I was able to share with them exactly how their decision will impact me," said Janet Clark, a dairy farmer and Fond du Lac County Farm Bureau member.

While in Washington, Farm Bureau members met officials from the American Farm Bureau Federation and the U.S. Department of Agriculture where they discussed issues pertaining to wetland conservation, telecommunication and broadband expansion, food safety and national preparedness for animal disease. A visit to the New Zealand Embassy included a conversation on trade and the global agricultural economy.

"Being in the institute program I learned the value of being fearless. By being fearless you can accomplish more in life like having the experience of meeting our representatives in Washington, DC., Having the opportunity to talk and share our experiences and concerns on agriculture issues with them was a benefit. Going through the institute has helped develop my confidence." -Brad Weber (pictured below)

In addition to meeting with Senators Ron Johnson and Tammy Baldwin and their representatives in the U.S. House of Representatives, Farm Bureau members also toured the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives' chambers.

Members of the Institute Class IX who attended the Washington, D.C., trip were: Hannah Barthels, Milton; Amanda Carlson, Hartland; Janet Clark, Rosendale; Jayne Dalton, Endeavor; Erin Daluge, Janesville; Will Litzer, Marathon; Kelsi Mayer, Monroe; Bill Mueller, Wausau; Sarah Sacker, Browntown; Taylor Schuetz, Brooklyn; Kim VandenAvond, Luxemburg; Brad Weber, Marshfield; and Randy Wokatsch, Marathon.

For more information about the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation's Institute, visit bit.ly/WFBFInstitute.

