

Your county extension office



UW Extension
Cooperative Extension
Marathon County

September/October
2013



Family Focus Newsletter

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4-H & Change...You Cannot Have One without the Other!

Dear 4-H Family,

Things are changing in the world of Marathon County 4-H!

Starting this fall, Wisconsin 4-H will be using a new program to manage our membership data. The program is called "4H Online" and it brings our whole program into the computer age! All families will be enrolling in 4-H on-line. We are excited about this new program because it will allow families to enter and manage their own information. Don't worry if you are not currently linked to the internet...we have some options that can work well for you, too!

The program was designed for use with all internet connections, whether it is through dial-up, DSL or broadband. It is easy to use and will give families the opportunity to update their personal information, look up projects they are enrolled in, read the newsletter, receive announcements about 4-H activities and more. It will be convenient, because families will be able to access their information any time of the day.

4-H Club leaders will be learning about the program and the new process at 4-H district meetings which are scheduled the week of September 16th. (See the schedule below.) Club leaders who do not feel comfortable on the internet may be recruiting adult leaders who can help them with this new "high tech" way of managing your club's data. If you have strong skills in this area, this would be a great way to contribute to your local 4-H Club!

We hope you will embrace this computer based enrollment system. In today's world computer access and skills are needed at all stages of life! No matter if you are in elementary school, looking for a job, applying for social security or veterans benefits...you need to use the internet to be successful. If this process is new to you...embrace it as a learning opportunity!

Have a great 4-H Day!

Jean Berger
4-H Youth Development Agent

Jessica Hinrichsen
4-H Program Advisor

The District Meeting Schedule is:

Monday, September 16th 7 pm:	North- 212 River Drive Rm #5, Wausau
Tuesday, September 17th 7 pm:	East— Hatley Community Center
Wednesday, September 18th 7 pm:	West— Stratford High School – Agriculture Education Room
Thursday, September 19th 7 pm:	South- Mosinee High School in the IMC (Library)

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4-H CALENDAR—2013

September

- 16 Fall District Meeting-North 7pm
- 17 Fall District Meeting-East 7pm
- 18 Fall District Meeting-West 7pm
- 19 Fall District Meeting-South 7pm
- 26 L.E.A.D..
- 30 4-H Award Forms Due

October

- 15 4-H Annual Financial Report Due to 4-H Office (NO EXCEPTIONS)
- 23 L.E.A.D.
- 25 Registrations Due for Recognition Banquet

November

- 1 Dairy Heifer Project Application Due
- 10 4-H Recognition Banquet 12:30 pm
- 15 Re-Enrollments Due
- 15 Club Charters Due to 4-H Office
- 21 L.E.A.D.
- 28-29 4-H Office Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

December

- 12 Leader Orientation 7-9pm
- 18 L.E.A.D.

July

- 29—Aug 3 Wisconsin Valley Fair

For the latest on
Marathon County
4-H news and
events, “Like” us
on Facebook!

**Marathon
County
4H**



Marathon County UW-Extension would like to welcome our new AmeriCorps VISTA LeeAnn Knutson. She will be working with the UW-Extension for the next year to develop programs that focus on positive youth development.

LeeAnn grew up in the small town of Caledonia, Minnesota. She attended college in La Crosse, Wisconsin and graduated from the University of Wisconsin- La Crosse with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology. LeeAnn joined the AmeriCorps VISTA program after graduation, which is a national service program designed specifically to fight poverty in America. She worked for Habitat for Humanity-La Crosse Area where she increased donations and funding towards Habitat through marketing and advertising, therefore, increasing the number of homes being built for families in need. Her favorite part of her VISTA year at Habitat was being able to work on the job site, and seeing how grateful the partner family was to receive a Habitat home.

In her position here at the UW-Extension, LeeAnn will be working on a variety of different programs that will serve low-income and underserved youth and families. Specifically, she will be teaching educational programs that promote healthy life-style choices and community service to youth through after school programs, expanding 4-H outreach to underserved audiences, and assisting with the community gardening project.

LeeAnn is excited to become part of the Marathon County community and looks forward to her year of service here at the UW-Extension!

Welcome LeeAnn !!

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Governor Scott Walker and Enthusiastic Bidders Raise \$80,988 for Wisconsin 4-H Youth



Governor Walker worked the crowd from the stage, encouraging bidders to increase their bids, and contributed to a sale that raised \$80,988 for nearly 350,000 Wisconsin 4-H youth and youth programs at this year's Governor's Blue Ribbon Meat Products Auction. The auction's proceeds support Wisconsin 4-H activities including 4-H conferences, teaching materials and workshops, and overall development of 4-H youth. The auction was held August 6 at Wisconsin State Fair Park.

Besides the 4-H youth, the star of the evening was Haen Meat Packing, a meat processor from Kaukauna, Wis., named the 2013 Best in Show. Haen Meat Packing, who earned the honor for their Bone-in Ham, competed against over 100 entries for the coveted title. The Best in Show bone-in ham sold for \$12,000 to a consortium formed by Country Fresh Meats, Egg Innovations, Hartmann Sand and Gravel, Wisconsin State Fair Park Board and UW-Extension. Haen Meat Packing was on the auction block five other times during the evening earning Grand Champion and Reserve Champion awards for several of their products.

Auctioneers Bob Johnson and Gary Finley, emcee Bob Meyer and Governor Walker not only sold each Grand Champion and Reserve Champion entries from the Wisconsin State Fair Meat Products Contest but also several Wisconsin-themed packages. Based in Madison, Wis., the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation provides essential funding for 4-H programs throughout Wisconsin. By partnering with individuals, corporations and foundations, the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation supports nearly 350,000 youth who take part in various 4-H leadership, development and community-building activities throughout the state. Learn more about the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation by visiting ww.Wis4HFoundation.org.

Livestock results from Area Animal Science Days

The 2013 Area Animal Science Days were held in Shawano, Jefferson, Chippewa and Iowa counties. Youth judged breeding and market classes of each of the following species, swine, beef, sheep and in some locations meat goats. Youth also answered questions and seniors gave reasons on selected classes. Congratulations to Marathon County participants in this year's Chippewa regional contest.

Chippewa:

Seniors: 1st – Ross Christiansen, Marathon; 2nd – Nicole Dittbrenner, Polk; 3rd – Alex Donnelly, Pierce; 4th – Karen Eby, Polk; and 5th – Whitney Owen, Pierce

Senior Reasons Individuals: 1st – Reese Johnston, Polk

Senior Team: 1st – Polk, 2nd – Pierce

Senior Reasons Team: 1st – Polk County

Juniors: 1st – Kailen Smerchek, Marathon; 2nd – Blake Johnson, Chippewa; 3rd – Kaylee Bazille, Pierce; 4th – Ryebbe Zee, Wood, 5th – Bryce Kragness, Chippewa

Junior Team: 1st – Marathon; 2nd – Chippewa #1

The top two Senior and Junior Teams from each site competed in the State 4-H Livestock Judging Contest held on Monday, July 22nd at the Arlington Public Events Center. The contest site has pictures and scores from the event. <http://fyi.uwex.edu/youthlivestock/programs/area-animal-science-days/> This program is sponsored by the WI 4-H Foundation, UW Animal Sciences Departments, 4-H Youth Development, and Milwaukee Stockyards.

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FAIR WRAP UP

Another Wisconsin Valley Fair has come to a close. The 4-H office is storing a number of unclaimed projects. If you are missing a project, please stop by the office before **September 30th**. The office will need to dispose of, or find new homes for any projects left after that date. We still have Junior Camp items! Please claim your items.



Let Your Voice be Heard

The Junior Fair Board will be meeting to discuss any comments or concerns from the exhibitors, parents or spectators. Letters of Comment and Concern should be mailed to: Jr. Fair Board, 212 River Drive, Suite 3, Wausau, WI 54403, no later than September 30th.

4-H LEADER ORIENTATION

Orientation for new 4-H Leaders will be held Thursday, **December 12, 2013**. The program will be held at the 4-H Office building at 212 River Drive in Wausau, Rm. 5, from 7-9pm. Following the training and completion of the application process;

- * Leaders are covered on the 4-H liability insurance.
- * Are able to lead project meetings, without accompaniment of another certified leader.
- * Elect delegates to the 4-H Leaders' Federation.
- * Eligible to receive a leader pass to the Wisconsin Valley Fair.



4-H LEADER ORIENTATION (December 12, 7-9 pm) Pre-registration

NAME _____

CLUB _____

Phone Number _____

(Where you can be reached in case of cancellation)

Mail to:

Leader Orientation
Marathon County UW Extension
212 River Drive
Suite 3
Wausau, WI 54403



University of Wisconsin, U. S. Department of Agriculture and Wisconsin counties cooperating. UW-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming including Title IX and ADA.

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4-H Award Forms Due September 30th

All 4-H Award forms are due September 30th, using the appropriate application. All forms are available on-line at the 4-H Webpage, <http://marathon.uwex.edu/4h/4-h-members-leaders/forms-applications/>. **Start working on your applications NOW...you will be amazed at the great opportunities that can come of it!** Would you like to spend a week on the UW-Madison campus?...apply for State 4-H Youth Conference! Do you want to see our Nation's Capitol and visit the National Zoo, the National Memorials and the Smithsonian?...apply to attend Citizenship Washington Focus! Do you want to become a stronger leader while experiencing Atlanta?...apply to participate in National 4-H Congress? The 4-H Leader's Federation also supports youth who attend Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama in Spring. The 4-H Leaders' Federation will support 50% of the trip cost or up to 75% of the cost if you are willing to give three presentations about your experience. Most of the trips require a simple application and interview. Only National Congress and National 4-H Conference require the Long ME form. Make sure you fill out the correct form! If you have questions please call the 4-H office or ask your leader! Don't forget the Project Awards, Rank Awards and Club Awards. Now is also the time to recognize those leaders who have volunteered their time to make Marathon County 4-H the best it can be! Those forms need to be completed now, too!

Marathon County 4-H Recognition Program & Banquet

The Marathon County 4-H recognition Program & Banquet will be held Sunday, **November 10, 2013** at Memories Ballroom, Marathon, Wisconsin. A buffet luncheon is served at Noon; Program and Annual Meeting begins at 12:30 pm. All Marathon County 4-H members, leaders, and their families are invited to attend the Annual Recognition Program. It is designed to recognize YOU for your accomplishments and leadership. We will recognize leaders for their years of service, 4-H graduates, 4-H project awards, 4-H Key Award recipients, and much more. The 4-H Leader's Federation will present their annual report and take suggestions for the upcoming year. If you would like to participate in the luncheon, your cost is \$5.00 per person.

(The 4-H Leader's Federation is subsidizing the cost meal). Pre-registration is required. Please do so by returning the form by October 25.



4-H Recognition Program, Sunday, November 10, 2013 Registration Form

Checks payable to: Marathon County 4-H Leader's Federation

Registration due: October 25, 2013

Mail to: 4-H Banquet, 212 River Drive, Suite #3, Wausau, WI 54403

Name/s _____

Address _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Club _____

Yes, we plan to attend the luncheon. I have enclosed \$_____, (\$5.00 per person), to cover the cost of the meal.

No, we will not be attending the luncheon, but we plan to attend the program and meeting

And the winner is...**Rib Mountaineers 4-H Club**

As 4-H members, we pledge our hands to larger service, and in this edition of the Family Focus we are showcasing the clubs that participated in **Challenge to Change** this past spring. Rib Mountaineers have earned a pizza party from the Marathon County 4-H Leaders' Federation. Check out the hard work and dedication of these clubs...

Rib Moutaineers collected over 48.5 lbs. of pop tabs with the help of Mount View Care Center, and donated them to Shriner Thom Passow to be put towards wheelchairs, prosthetics, and free medical help for children.

Pleasant View donated 100 puzzle books to patients in the Aspirus Cancer Center. Members decorated each book with stickers and showcased their 4-H club in each.

Pine Road Pioneers assisted at The Community Center of Hope Food Pantry. 4-H members participated in various tasks from unloading trucks and checking expiration dates to sorting food and stocking shelves. These 4-H members also learned about hunger in the Mosinee community.

Plover Valley contributed their time and energy in their community by raking lawns, picking up branches, and moving gravel for elderly women within their community.

Trapp River North Stars planted 40 trees for Arbor Day at Brockmeyer Park in Wausau. Members not only planted trees but learned about tree identification and the benefits of planting trees within their community.

Casa Mara used their skills to make survival bracelets to be used for emergency shelter, an animal trap for food, and to pull up another person. These bracelet cords can hold 500 lbs. of weight and can be up to 8 feet long. Proceeds are going to the Marathon County Humane Society.

Thank you to ALL the clubs that lend a hand within your communities. You truly are making a HUGE difference! Keep up the awesome work!

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4-H Family Camp at Upham Woods
October 18-20, 2013



4-H Camp Upham Woods offers a unique family experience! Upham Woods's Family Camp weekends are places where families play, laugh, and grow together in the spectacular beauty of the natural Wisconsin Dells. Take your family on a vacation that gets them unplugged from their iPhones, laptops, X-Box, Wii's and televisions. Enjoy land and water activities, yummy meals each day, campfires, camp crafts, family adventures, and more! Families have the option of a stay full of adventure, relaxation or a little bit of both. Start building your family memories and traditions today through a weekend of outdoor adventure, together at Upham Woods.

The next Family Camp is scheduled October 18 - 20. Special early bird registration pricing is available...Information about registration is available online at:

<http://fyi.uwex.edu/uphamwoods/family-camps/>

Make A Difference... Participate in Make a Difference Day!

This is a great 4-H Club Opportunity!

Do you want to make a difference in your community? Join Volunteer Connection for Make A Difference Day 2013. This is a communitywide event for volunteers to get together and help those in need in Marathon County.

Spend the morning raking elderly or disabled residents who have no one to help them with the task. Bring your own rake, gloves and a few friends to help. (Those under age 18 must be accompanied by an adult.)

If you have a truck or trailer, help haul leaves. Meet at the Wausau Armory at noon.

Donations are accepted at the Armory from 8am-noon.

Donate non-perishable food items and personal care items/toiletries for the Marathon County Hunger Coalition.

Give the gift of new or gently used winter outdoor gear for families, Coats for Kids.

Join Volunteer Connection Oct. 26, 2013 at the National Guard Armory, 833 S 17th Ave. Wausau 54401 to volunteer for Make A Difference Day.

*Raking assignments will be handed out from 8-9am. **Pre-register online at***

www.unitedwaymc.org/madd.htm.

There will be a complimentary lunch provided after the raking event.

For more information, visit unitedwaymc.org/madd.htm or dial 2-1-1.



If you are involved in a geology project, the Wausau Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show will be held at the East Gate Hall @ Marathon Park, Oct. 11-13, 2013. This event is free to everyone. For more information call 715-212-7080 or visit www.exclusiveinspirations.com



As we begin preparations to celebrate 4-H's 100th anniversary, we are recruiting alumni and current 4-H members, leaders, volunteers, parents and friends of 4-H. Please register online to receive information on our anniversary, event announcements and occasional updates. Please help us reach the 4-H family of alumni in your area by including this advertisement in your newsletters. Visit us at www.4hfoundation.org.



Are you interested in the fish and amphibians project but don't know how to get started? Do you want to show your pet fish at the fair but are not sure what the judges are looking for? If so, contact Steve Radant, the fish and amphibian superintendent, at stevesaquarium@aol.com to get your questions answered or to schedule a 4-H club program or local fish store tour, where 4-H members will learn about...

- * Aquarium basics and tank set up
- * Betta fish set-up
- * Judging at the fair
- * What makes a great show fish
- * And much, much more!

You are invited to L.E.A.D.



Who: All middle and high school 4-H members

What: Learn. Empower. Advance. Develop.

When: Thursday, September 26th
Wednesday, October 23rd
Thursday, November 21st
Wednesday, December 18th

**Grades 6-8 from 6PM-7PM, and grades 9-12 from 7PM-8PM

Where: Marathon County 4-H Office, 212 River Drive, Wausau

Why:

To be a part of a county wide program and build your résumé
Lend a hand to those in need through community service
Develop leadership, communication and teamwork skills through fast
paced and fun activities
Meet new friends from around the county
Prepare for college/career after high school
Have say in future 4-H county programs
And to have FUN, lots of FUN!

This is a continual program and 4-H members can join at any time. Any 4-H member that attends 3 of the 4 fall meetings will receive a **free 4-H t-shirt**. Contact Jess with questions, (715) 261-1244 or jessica.hinrichsen@ces.uwex.edu.

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Marathon County 4-H/FFA Dairy Heifer Program

Send to: UW-Extension, 4-H
Dairy Heifer Program
212 River Drive, Suite #3
Wausau, WI 54403

Due: November 1, 2013

Name _____ Grade _____

Address _____
Street City/Town Zip

Club/FFA Chapter _____ Phone _____

4-H Leader/FFA Advisor _____ Years in Dairy Project _____

Breed Request _____ Have you been in the Dairy Heifer program before? _____

Signature of Applicant's Parent or Guardian Date

Briefly describe what you have learned or accomplished in the dairy project:

Indicate why you would like to become part of the program:

Briefly describe your family dairy operation (Include size of herd, breed, registered or grade, type of testing.)

List other 4-H/FFA school projects or activities that you are involved in:

Briefly describe your calf raising arrangements:

University of Wisconsin, United States Department of Agriculture and Wisconsin Counties Cooperative. UW-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title IX and ADA requirements. Please make written request for reasonable accommodations at least 10 days prior to the scheduled activity. Requests will be kept confidential.

Annual Leader Training for Volunteers – 2013-2014

4-H Organizational Leaders know that each year Wisconsin requires a specific leader training lesson to be taught to club leaders. In 2014...the Annual Leadership Training will have a different look!

The Annual 4-H Volunteer Leader Training is a requirement for each chartered 4-H club/group to attend as part of the charter and renewal process. We want as many volunteers to be engaged in training as possible. We know the more training and support we can provide to our volunteers the more successful they will be in their role as volunteers in 4-H Youth Development. The e-forums are a great way to engage more volunteers. It is designed for youth and adult leaders. At least one leader from each club is required to attend at least one of the training sessions.

Instead of including the training at our district meetings, the state of Wisconsin will be using the North Central Regional Volunteer e-Forum trainings. The North Central Region Volunteer Forum is an opportunity for volunteers to connect with Extension professionals and other volunteers from across a twelve state region. There are four on-line trainings being offered through this venue: <http://4h.uwex.edu/ncrvd/eForum2013.cfm>).

November 18th---OMG! You've Got 4-H Parents! Now What??

Parents play a critical role in deciding the organizations in which their children will participate. The experience the family has in 4-H during their first year is important for long-term participation. This session will help volunteers explore a variety of strategies to increase positive parental support of local 4-H programs. As a result, parents will stay connected with their own children, recognize mutual expectations and responsibilities between parents and volunteers, and become caring adults for other youth.

December 3rd---Engaging Teens & Older Youth

Research has clearly shown that quality youth programs, those proven most effective and rated highly by young people themselves, are masterful at engaging youth at the highest level in planning, making choices, and reflecting on their learning. Attention to making youth programs fun, interesting, welcoming and encouraging to young people in our 4-H Youth Development programs is important but not enough. This session, co-developed and delivered by youth, will provide insight, tools and resources volunteers can use to more effectively engage and meet the needs of teen members, a common challenge in youth programs.

January 14th---Using Technology to Enhance Your 4-H Experience

Technology can be a great tool to support better communication and learning with 4-H participants. However, keeping up with the latest trends and changes can be challenging and overwhelming. This session will share some easy ways that technology can help 4-H leaders be better connected with youth participants. It will also briefly explore ideas on integrating technology into 4-H projects to enhance the life skill development and 21st century skills of young people.

February 3rd---Exploring the Science of 4-H Projects

Does the idea of emphasizing science in 4-H make you sweat? It doesn't have to be scary. Discover methods to reinforce simple science concepts using traditional 4-H projects. You will take home ready-to-go activities that incorporate science concepts across the curriculum areas.

All sessions will be held from 7 to 8:30 pm in Conference Room #5 at the UW-Extension Office Building, 212 River Drive, Wausau. Registration is requested at least 1 week before the training date.

4H Annual Leader Training Registration

Name _____ Club _____

Phone number (to be used in case of cancellation due to inclement weather) _____

E-mail address _____

I plan to attend the following session (s): _____

November 18th---OMG! You've Got 4-H Parents! Now What?? (Register by 11/11)

December 3rd---Engaging Teens & Older Youth (Register by 11/26)

January 14th---Using Technology to Enhance Your 4-H Experience (Register by 1/7)

February 3rd---Exploring the Science of 4-H Projects (Register by 1/27)

University of Wisconsin, U.S. Department of Agriculture and Wisconsin counties cooperating. UW-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming including Title IX and ADA.

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The 4-H Centennial history committee has started a timeline of important dates in Wisconsin 4-H history, but we need your help! If you know any milestones, important dates or other historical information with statewide impacts, please share it! The History Committee's timeline is attached, and we appreciate any edits, additions or suggestions you can provide! Please send items and ideas to jackie.askins@ces.uwex.edu and christina.rencontre@ces.uwex.edu, and let us know if you have any questions!

