



Pierce | St. Croix County Farm Bureaus

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Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

Membership, Membership, Membership



Farm Bureau is a membership driven organization, which means your membership is what drives Farm Bureau.

Members like you want to see local businesses and rural communities prosper. You want to be heard when

decisions that affect your farms, families and futures are made by elected officials. This is why you join Farm Bureau!

Each year, county Farm Bureaus have goals to increase their membership. Congratulations to Pierce and St. Croix County Farm Bureaus for reaching their membership goals for the year!



Sign a new member, get \$20! You can get involved too. County Farm Bureau volunteers will receive \$20 for every new member who they sign between October 1, 2016, and September 30, 2017.

For membership year 2016-2017, volunteers are asked to help Farm Bureau grow it's membership by pledging to sign two members by April 1, 2017 (2x4 campaign). Will you help by Building Farm Bureau ... one member at a time?

For more information, please contact District 9 Coordinator Katie Mattison at kmattison@wfbf.com or 866.355.7349.

Another Year of County Fairs is in the Books



Mary, Austin and Lauren Brand and Jonah Seifert posed for a picture in the Little Red Barn.

Pierce County Farm Bureau wrapped up another successful fair season with the close of the Pierce County Fair on August 14.

Friends and neighbors volunteered to serve ice cold milk and fresh cookies at the Little Red Barn to fair attendees. A big chunk of Pierce County Farm Bureau's revenue comes from the Little Red Barn at the Pierce County Fair. It enables us to fund Ag in the Classroom activities, send FFA members to FFA Farm Forum and do the many consumer education activities we undertake throughout the year.

The St. Croix County Fair came to a close for another year but not before many fairgoers stopped by the St. Croix County Farm Bureau food stand to enjoy some delicious food, including the famous Ellsworth cheese curds.



Despite the hot weather, it was all smiles behind the scenes at the food stand.

Even though temperatures were above average, the food stand still had a successful year. Profits from the food stand are used to support many activities throughout the year. Some of these include donations to local food pan-



Peter Kimball served some delicious milk and cookies to Little Red Barn patrons.



Randy Roquette was ready to serve up the ever popular deep fried Ellsworth cheese curds at the food stand.

tries, dairy promotion events, Ag in the Classroom support, sponsorship of ag day on campus at UW-River Falls and scholarships for high school seniors.

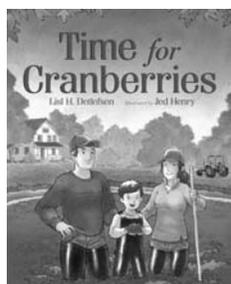
Thank you to the volunteers who helped make another county fair season a success. We could not do this without you.



COUNTYnews

PIERCE COUNTY FARM BUREAU | ST. CROIX COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION

Ag in the Classroom Program Announces Essay Topic and Book of the Year



Time for Cranberries is the 2017 book of the year and 'Tell us about cranberry production in Wisconsin during one of the four seasons' is the topic for the annual essay contest.

The essay contest is open to fourth and fifth grade students in public, private and home school programs. Students involved in 4-H, PALS and after school programs also are encouraged to participate.

Essay submissions must be 100- to 300-words in length and will be judged on content, grammar, spelling and neatness. Contest rules, lesson plans and sample classroom activities are available at wisagclassroom.org or by contacting WFBF Ag in the Classroom at 800.261.3276 or aitc@wfbf.com.

Participating students and schools need to submit essays by **April 1** to their county Farm Bureau essay coordinator. A list of coordinators is available at wisagclassroom.org.

- **Pierce County Ag in the Classroom essay coordinator:**
Monica Krings
- **St. Croix County Ag in the Classroom essay coordinator:**
Melanie Peterson

A state winner will be selected from nine district winners in May by the WFBF Promotion and Education Committee. Each district winner will receive a classroom presentation in May. The contest is sponsored by Insight FS, We Energies and the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation.

Last year, more than 3,000 students participated in the contest. In this year's book of the year selection, *Time for Cranberries*, introduces young readers to cranberries, from the bog to the Thanksgiving table. The hardcover books come with an activity-lesson plan packet that teachers, students and home school parents can use to enhance the reading experience. Book order forms are available at www.wisagclassroom.org under order resources, order forms.

Just around the Corner ...



• Ag Day at the Capitol, March 8, 2017

Ag Day at the Capitol will be on **Wednesday March 8, 2017**, in Madison. A bus from northwest Wisconsin is being planned again for 2017.

This is a great opportunity to make contact with local representatives and network with other Farm Bureau members.

Watch for more information to come soon.

To reserve your spot early, please contact District 9 Coordinator Katie Mattison at 866.355.7349 or kmattison@wfbf.com.

• Wisconsin Ag Women's Summit – March 10-11

The Wisconsin Ag Women's Summit is a joint effort of Badgerland Financial, the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation and UW–Extension. It is our mission to support women in agriculture by providing a meeting place to learn, network and build friendships through peer-to-peer interaction.

During the past six years, we have learned a lot and grown together, personally and professionally.

Join us for another top-notch program and event as we continue this journey, together.

For more information, visit wiagwomenssummit.com.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

2 Bergseng's Message
Pierce Annual Meeting
Distinguished Service
District Coordinator
Pierce Contacts

3 Kruschke's Message
St. Croix Annual Meeting
Distinguished Service
In Memory: Fritz Anding
St. Croix Contacts

District 9 Discussion Meet Contestants Shine



The District 9 YFA Discussion Meet was held in conjunction with the District 9 Policy Development meeting on August 4 at the Stout Ale House in Menomonie.

About 20 people attended the event with five YFA members competing in the Discussion Meet.

District 9 had a great showing from across the district. Competitors were: Julie

Wadzinski, Barron County; Isaac Christenson, Polk County; Nate Kringle, Sawyer County; Laura Benitz, Pierce County; and Kirsten Konder, St. Croix County. Isaac Christenson, Laura Benitz and Kirsten Konder will represent District 9 at the YFA Conference in the Wisconsin Dells on December 2-4.

Congratulations to the competitors on an awesome competition!

Pierce County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Dean Bergseng 715.425.6404
Vice President, John Krings 715.495.6285
Secretary, Laura Benitz 715.220.8962
Treasurer, Roy Swanson 715.273.3268
Women's Chair, Monica Krings 715.495.6286

Director, Peter Kimball 715.307.3726
Director, Kevin Knutson 715.760.2692
Director, Eric Turner 715.307.7262
Pierce County Farm Bureau 866.795.4792

District 9 Contacts

WFBF Board Director, Jim Holte 715.835.6708
District 9 YFA Chair, Cindy Bourget 715.505.7676
District 9 Coordinator, Katie Mattison 866.355.7349
RMIC District Manager, Ken Truax 715.514.4477

District Coordinator Message



Thank you! Two simple words that do not get said enough. Thank you for all that you do for Farm Bureau and agriculture in Wisconsin.

I am grateful for each and every one of you; for all that you do for agriculture, your communities and for Farm Bureau.

Thank you for your passion for agriculture and your commitment to Farm Bureau.

The future of agriculture looks great because of **you!** Farm Bureau is successful because of **you!** Thank you for being a member of a 45,000 plus member-strong organization.

Your membership matters and helps make a difference in agriculture across Wisconsin and the U.S. I thank you for being a Farm Bureau member. I thank you for your commitment to your County and Wisconsin Farm Bureau.

Thank you for your time, your involvement and your dedication. I am amazed by the accomplishments of our members and am very grateful to be a part of the Farm Bureau family. It is because of the hard work and dedication of all of you, our Farm Bureau members, that Farm Bureau is able to thrive and the future of agriculture looks so great.

I am committed to working alongside you for many years to come to make Farm Bureau and Wisconsin agriculture amazing.

If you have questions or comments throughout the year, please contact me. I would love to hear from you.

Katie Mattison
District 9 Coordinator
kmattison@wfbf.com
866.355.7349

Pierce: Welcome New Members

Ryan Bailey, Jason Boles*, Richard Ingli, Brittni Jenkins, Ronald Johnson, David Krings*, Paul Manor*, Katelyn Mewes*, Beverly Monahan, Donovan Naebbers, Anne Purdy, Ryan Schneider* and Amy Vande Brake*.

*Denotes voting member.

Pierce County President's Message



Dear Pierce Farm Bureau Members,

Where has the summer gone? It went by way too fast! It was a tremendous year for crops and hopefully the wet fields will dry up enough to get the crops out.

Pierce County Farm Bureau had a great summer. The River Falls and Prescott parades went well. We handed out 7,000 cartons of milk and 150 pounds of cheese curds between the two parades.

Our Pierce County Fair milk stand was successful again this year, making \$1,150. Thanks to everyone who helped with parades and at the fair.

The September 15 annual meeting went well. Peter Kimball retired as Young Farmer and Agriculturist chair and will be a

regular board member. We hope to have a new YFA chair in place soon.

Mary Brand chose not to seek another term. We thank Mary for her service to the board and the Pierce County Farm Bureau. We welcome Kevin Knutson as the newest board member. Jim Harsdorf, John Krings and myself were chosen as delegates to the WFBF Annual Meeting in December.

It is membership bonus time again. Several board members and others worked to make sure we get this bonus. This money is used to help fund many of our Farm Bureau member activities and promotions.

Have a safe harvest!!

Dean Bergseng
Pierce County Farm Bureau President

Pierce County Annual Meeting Held



The Pierce County Farm Bureau board of directors: back row (L-R): Roy Swanson, Dean Bergseng, Eric Turner, Kevin Knutson and John Krings; front row (L-R): Monica Krings, Laura Benitz and Peter Kimball.

Members of the Pierce County Farm Bureau held their annual meeting on September 15 at the Martell Community Center.

We welcomed Kevin Knutson of Beldenville to the Pierce County Farm Bureau Board of Directors. Delegates elected to represent Pierce County at the WFBF Annual Meeting in December are: Dean Bergseng, John Krings and Jim Harsdorff.

As a grassroots organization, it is Farm Bureau's members on the county level who create and set the policy goals of the state's leading farm organization. The WFBF is asked to get involved in issues affecting production agriculture and rural Wisconsin in Madison and Washington, D.C. During the meeting, members discussed a range of issues including transportation funding,

rural broadband, animal welfare and environmental regulations.

The following resolutions passed and will be forwarded on for consideration to be presented to the delegates at the WFBF Annual Meeting in December:

1. We support increasing broadband access to all of Wisconsin.
2. We support adding wild parsnip to the noxious weed list.
3. We support the collaboration with other groups to assist on a more immediate time frame with the increase of the transportation fund.
4. We are opposed to further regulations on animal husbandry practices.
5. We are in favor of being involved in the conversation as it relates to animal husbandry.
6. Agencies governing wetlands should collaborate to establish a singular form and filing that satisfies all requirements for all agencies.
7. We are opposed to the purchase of farmland by foreign investors.
8. We see a need for regulation that recognizes the differences in farms, landscapes, soil types, etc. We believe this should be handled by a specialist.

For more information on the Pierce County Farm Bureau, visit wfbf.com/countyfarmbureaus/pierce/ or contact 866.795.4792.



Welcome new Pierce County Farm Bureau board member Kevin Knutson.

Pierce County Distinguished Service to Farm Bureau Award

Pierce County Farm Bureau presented long-time member, Charles Wiff with the 2016 Distinguished Service to Farm Bureau Award at the Pierce County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting on September 15 at the Martell Community Center.

Dean Bergseng was honored to present this award to Charles, as Charles was the one who originally signed him up as a member.

Charles was a past Pierce County president in the 1970s and signed many new members to Pierce County Farm Bureau over the years, stating that one year he signed more than 100 members!

Charles and his wife Barb accepted the award.

Congratulations Charles! We thank you for what you have done for Pierce County Farm Bureau.



Pierce County Farm Bureau president Dean Bergseng presented Charles Wiff and wife Barb with the Distinguished Service to Farm Bureau Award.

St. Croix County President's Message



Dear St. Croix County Farm Bureau members,

I hope everyone is having a safe harvest. As I write this message, the crops seem to be great so far this year.

Farm City Day in August was very well attended. It takes a lot of volunteers for an event like that. I want to thank everyone who helped. As the host farm, we heard many great comments on the event and how organized it was.

St. Croix County Farm Bureau had a successful year with a

few new activities and great attendance at the annual meeting. Thank you to those who made this past year such a success.

Farm Bureau completed the membership year as of September 30 and I am pleased to report that St. Croix County reached our membership goal. I want to thank everyone for sending their membership dues in on a timely matter, it makes the board members task much easier.

I hope everyone takes the time to vote in the upcoming elections.

Dave Kruschke
St. Croix County Farm Bureau President

St. Croix County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, David Kruschke	715.246.6461
Vice President, Leslie Svacina	651.261.3079
Secretary/Treasurer, Jenny Mueller	715.749.3583
Women's Chair, Melanie Peterson	715.665.2142
YFA Chair, Kirsten Konder	715.977.7351
Director, Lynn Brosi	715.425.5575
Director, James Lund	715.684.3936
Director, Dean Mueller	715.760.1501
Director, Gary Peterson	715.665.2142
Director, Randy Roquette	715.684.3303
Director, Greg Zwald	715.222.4349
St. Croix County Farm Bureau	888.830.2574

St. Croix County Annual Meeting Held



The 2016-2017 Sawyer County board of directors are: back row (L-R) Gary Peterson, Dean Mueller, Greg Zwald, Randy Roquette and Jim Lund; front row (L-R) Melanie Peterson, Jenny Mueller, Lynn Brosi, Leslie Svacina, Dave Kruschke and Kirsten Konder. Missing from photo is Tim Bazille.

The St. Croix County Farm Bureau annual meeting was on September 14 at the Baldwin American Legion. DATCP and St. Croix County Farm Bureau board member Greg Zwald was the guest speaker.

Members enjoyed a dinner catered by Ruth Hurtgen and then voted on policy and board of directors.

St. Croix County Farm Bureau will present the following resolutions passed during the annual meeting for consideration to be presented to the delegates at the WFBF Annual Meeting in December:

1. We support new legislation that would require mud flaps on all vehicles more than 1.5 tons manufacturers rating.
2. We support adding wild parsnip to the noxious weed list.
3. We support best management practices for controlling noxious weeds (i.e., wild parsnip).

In Memory of Fritz Anding



St. Croix County Farm Bureau lost a great member with the passing of Frederick 'Fritz' Anding on July 27. He was 87.

Fritz was involved in agriculture his entire life. He and his father Ray started Guernsey Dale Dairy and bottled and delivered milk door-to-door in Hudson. They sold the business and began exclusively dairy farming.

Fritz's sons, Randy and Ron, joined the family farm when they graduated from high school.



St. Croix County Farm Bureau board member Greg Zwald and DATCP board member talked about his position on the DATCP board. Greg is serving a 6-year term.

4. We support better access to affordable and reliable broadband across the entire state to keep up with today's technology.
5. We see a need for regulation that recognizes the differences in farms, landscapes, soil types, etc. We do not believe that it should be handled at the local level.
6. We support making funding for the working lands program sum sufficient to ensure that participants are fully compensated.
7. We support legislative regulation requiring health insurance companies to cover out of network providers and procedure costs at an in network level of co-pay, deductible and out of pocket maximum whenever out of network cost is less than in-network cost.

For more information on St. Croix County Farm Bureau visit wfbf.com/countyfarmbureaus/st-croix or contact 888.830.2574.

As a member of the St. Croix County Farm Bureau, Fritz served as a board member for more than 50 years and 25 plus years as secretary. In addition to serving the local county Farm Bureau, Fritz served 12 years as a state Farm Bureau Director.

Over the years, the Anding dairy sold milk to dairy cooperatives, receiving many awards and recognition for milk production and quality. It was through Mid-America Dairymen, Inc., that Fritz served as district chair.

His interest and dedication to dairy education and product promotion, led him to be appointed to the Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board and eventually, the National Dairy Board.

Fritz will be greatly missed by members of the St. Croix County Farm Bureau.

St. Croix County Farm Bureau Gives Distinguished Service Award



St. Croix County Farm Bureau board member Dean Mueller presented Randy Peterson with the St. Croix County Farm Bureau Distinguished Service Award.

The St. Croix County Farm Bureau presented the Distinguished Service Award to Randy Peterson of Woodville at the St. Croix County Farm Bureau annual meeting on September 14 at the Baldwin American Legion.

Randy has farmed for more than 30 years. In addition to farming he serves on the St. Croix County Fair board; as president of the Dunn, Pierce and St. Croix Guernsey Breeders; on the St. Croix County Dairy Committee, is a certified dairy judge and serves on church council. Randy also has served as a director for the Wisconsin Guernsey Breeders, director of Farm First Dairy Coop, member of 4-H Leaders Council and a mentor at Viking Middle School.

Congratulations to Randy and we thank you for all that you do for agriculture in St. Croix County and throughout Wisconsin!

St. Croix: Welcome New Members!

Tony Endres, James Karlson, Bryan Lee, Brent Mueller*, Steve Mueller*, Travis Myher, Dan Nelson* and Brian Volkert*.

* Denotes voting member.