



Pierce | St. Croix County Farm Bureaus

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Laurie Peterson, District Manager - (715) 514-4477

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

Plan to Attend the Policy Development Meeting

When: Thursday, August 3
Where: 11:30 a.m. - Tee Away Golf Course, 1401 E. 11th Street N., Ladysmith
 or
 7:30 p.m. - Stout Ale House Banquet Center, 1501 N. Broadway Street, #1500, Menomonie

Your Voice Matters
 Wisconsin Farm Bureau is a grassroots organization that works on behalf of farm

families and individuals who support agriculture. That means that we need to hear what is important to you. Please plan to attend one of these important meetings and let your voice be heard. The District 9 YFA Discussion Meet will precede the policy Development meeting at the Stout Ale House starting at 6:30 p.m.

For directions, questions or to RSVP, contact District 9 Coordinator Katie Mattison at kmattison@wfbf.com or 866.355.7349.

DISTRICT 9 FARM BUREAU



POLICY DEVELOPMENT MEETINGS

08.03.17
 11:30AM TEE AWAY LADYSMITH
 OR
 7:30PM STOUT ALE HOUSE MENOMONIE

The District 9 YFA Discussion Meet contest will precede the Policy Development meeting at the Stout Ale House beginning at 6:30 pm

YOUR VOICE MATTERS!
 Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation is a grassroots organization that works on behalf of farm families and other individuals who support agriculture. That means that we need to hear what's important to you! Please plan to attend one of these meetings and let your voice be heard!



For questions or to RSVP, please contact Katie Mattison, District 9 Coordinator, at kmattison@wfbf.com or 715.418.0975 (call or text)

District 9 Discussion Meet

Date:
Thursday, August 3

Time:
6:00 p.m. light hors d'oeuvres
6:30 p.m. Discussion Meet
7:30 p.m. Policy Development Meeting

Location:
Stout Ale House
1501 N Broadway Street
Menomonie

Question to be discussed:
Formation of family farm corporations is common practice. How can Farm Bureau work to ensure that the public's positive perception of the family farm is not lost?



For more information contact District YFA Representative Julie Wadzinski at 715.432.8740 or julie.wadzinski@gmail.com or District 9 Coordinator Katie Mattison at 715.418.0975 or kmattison@wfbf.com



COUNTYnews

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

Elmwood Student is Pierce County Ag in the Classroom Essay Winner



Essay contest winner Dominic Forster pictured with his teacher George Klink and Pierce County Farm Bureau women's chair Monica Krings.

Dominic Forster, a fifth-grade student from Elmwood, is the Pierce County winner of the Agriculture in the Classroom essay contest. Wisconsin fourth and fifth grade students were asked to write a 100- to 300-word essay with the theme, 'Tell us about cranberry production during one of the four seasons in Wisconsin.'

Dominic is the son of Lexi Forster. George Klink is his fifth-grade teacher at Elmwood Elementary.

Dominic's winning essay:

My Cranberry Report

Wisconsin produces and raises a lot of things like fruit, vegetables, animals and even fish, but Wisconsin's state fruit is the cranberry and that is why Wisconsin is the number one cranberry producing state in the United States. Wood County has more than 4,000 acres dedicated to cranberry growing and is the number one cranberry producing county in Wisconsin. Although Wisconsin's Eau Claire County produces a little below 100 acres dedicated to cranberry growing, there are still more counties in Wisconsin that produce cranberries.

Cranberries are small, red and bouncy. To test the cranberries the farmer's bounce the cranberries and if they bounce they pass the test. Cranberries can be made into many products like cranberry juices, cranberry jam, raisins and even cranberry Jell-O and many other products. Natives thought when cranberries were blooming they resembled the head of a Sand Hill Crane so the Natives called the cranberry "crane berry". Cranberries grow in something called a bog. It can take up to six years for a freshly made bog to go into production.

When the cranberries are ready to be harvested, the farmers will flood the entire cranberry bog. Then the cranberry farmers will harvest the cranberries with something called a water reel or an eggbeater. It strips the cranberries of their vine and then they float to the top of the water. Then the farmers trap the cranberries and then they get sucked up into a machine then dumped into a semi-truck and hauled away to the factory. It was fun writing about cranberries.

Nearly 70 Pierce County students wrote essays for the competition sponsored by the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation, Insight FS and We Energies.

St. Croix Central Student is St. Croix County Ag in the Classroom Essay Winner



Essay contest winner Sidnie Roshell pictured with (from left) St. Croix County Farm Bureau board members Jenny Mueller and Melanie Peterson and her teacher Mindy Ramberg.

Sidnie Roshell, a fifth-grade student at St. Croix Central Middle School is the St. Croix County winner of the Agriculture in the Classroom essay contest.

Sidnie is the daughter of Susan Roshell. Mindy Ramberg is her fifth-grade teacher at St. Croix Central Middle School.

Sidnie's winning essay:

Cranberry Production in Wisconsin

If you've ever been to Wisconsin, you've probably seen, or even eaten a cranberry. Have you ever wondered how these little, red fruits are harvested? Here's the sweet stuff about cranberries – from the vine to your mouth.

Did you know cranberries grow on low to the ground running vines, and are flooded with water to be harvested? Farmers do that because cranberries have little pockets of air in them, so when flooded, float up to the surface of the water to be collected by harvesting machines. Some machines are the separators, which separate the yummy, edible cranberries from the yucky, overripe ones. Blowers separate sticks and leaves from the cranberry bins. There are many other machines that help with cranberry production too.

These tart, tiny berries are deep red when ripe, and when growing, tan, beige or peach. You might not believe it, but cranberries are Wisconsin's state fruit, and number one crop! The cranberry was called cran-berry by settlers because of its blossom's resemblance to the sandhill crane. Cranberries were discovered in 1860 by Edward Sackett in Berlin, Wisconsin. Twenty percent of cranberries are eaten during the holiday season. Only five percent is sold fresh. The rest are made into sauces, jams and other things. Cranberries reduce the risk of gum disease. Pirates brought them on board their ships to prevent scurvy, a horribly gum disease. More than two hundred fifty growers produce many cranberries in Northern and Central Wisconsin. They are harvested from late September through October. Did you know that when a fresh cranberry is dropped, it will usually bounce?

Well, that was most of the facts on cranberry production in Wisconsin! I hope you learned something new while reading this! I sure did!

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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, Julie Wadzinski 715.432.8740
District 9 Promotion and Education
Chair, Kay Gilbertson 715.271.8141
District 9 Coordinator, Katie Mattison 715.283.4845
RMIC District Manager, Laurie Peterson 715.514.4477

Save the Date: Pierce County Annual Meeting

When: Tuesday, September 19
Where: Martell Community Center

A formal invite and additional information will be coming soon.



Pierce and Pepin Fall Clean Sweep and Pharmaceutical Event

Agriculture and Household
Hazardous Waste and
Pharmaceutical Ag Collection



Saturday, September 16

8 to 12 noon

Recycling Center

707 N. Maple Street and Highway 65
Ellsworth

715.273.3092

www.co.pierce.wi.us
recycle@co.pierce.wi.us

Pierce: Welcome New Members



Shane Bamman, Steve Coulson,
Sara Dhein, Chad Nelson and
Brady Schroeder.

Pierce County President's Message



Dear Farm Bureau members,

It was a crazy spring to try to get crops in and first-crop hay done.

Thank you to Jason Kjos and Huppert Brothers for hosting the Pierce County Dairy Breakfast on June 17.

Recently, while on the ATV and UTV trail east of Shell Lake, we watched two Amish farmers and their young sons loading hay on wagons with a hay loader pulled by horses. It was interesting to watch.

I was sorry to get word that the GM \$500 Bonus Program ended. This program helped many members and local dealerships. Retired Prescott area farmer Duane Huppert used this program three times to help him purchase trucks. He recently purchases his 40th truck. Even with the loss of the GM benefit, there are still some great Farm Bureau discounts for our members to take advantage of.

Several area communities have already had their community celebrations with parades, tractor pulls, etc. We're working to

pass out milk and cheese curds in the River Falls and Prescott parades. Probably up to 5,000 cartons of milk and 100 pounds of cheese curds in River Falls and about one-half that amount in Prescott. We are lucky to work with two great 4-H clubs and have many wonderful sponsors.

We are looking for volunteers to help us with the milk stand at the Pierce County Fair on **August 10-13**. Volunteers work three-hour shifts and we would love for you to join us.

Stay cool and be safe!

Dean Bergseng,
President, Pierce County Farm Bureau

Some upcoming dates:

July 14-16	River Falls Days
July 27-29	UFO Days, Elmwood
August 19-20	Valley Collectors Show, Norm Feyereisen's farm, River Falls
August 25-27	Harvest Fest, Dave Kusilek's farm, River Falls
September 8-10	Prescott Daze
September 15-17	Spring Valley Dam Days

Join us at the Pierce County Fair for Milk and Cookies

The Pierce County Fair is set for **August 10-13**.

The Pierce County Farm Bureau will again be operating their famous Little Red Barn where ice cold milk, delicious Best Maid cookies and fresh Ellsworth cheese curds will be served.

Plan now to volunteer to serve up some fair favorites. We encourage you to help if you can. The Little Red Barn is open from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. every day of the fair. Shifts are flexible and every hour you can help is appreciated.

If you are interested in helping, please contact Monica Krings at 715.495.6286 or Dean Bergseng at 715.307.4976. And, if you can't help, at least make sure to stop by and have a bite to eat!

We will see you at the Pierce County Fair!



Member Benefit of the Month

Have you used any of your Farm Bureau member benefits lately?

A long-standing Farm Bureau member benefit is the \$500 Reward Protection Program.

The reward is paid to a qualifying individual who provides information that leads to the arrest and conviction of any person who commits the crime(s) of arson, theft or criminal damage to a Farm Bureau member's property where the reward sign is posted.

There are \$500 Reward signs as well as windows-adhesive decals available.

The \$500 Reward signs or window stickers are available by contacting your WFBF District 9 Coordinator Katie Mattison at 866.355.7349 or kmattison@wfbf.com or can be ordered at no cost directly from the WFBF office in Madison.



★ WANTED: ★

First Time Attendees

Join us for the 2017 Wisconsin Farm Bureau Young Farmer and Agriculturists Conference, December 1-3 at the Kalahari Resort in Wisconsin Dells.

Never attended the Young Farmer and Agriculturist Conference? Now is your chance to experience this conference for FREE! You will network, learn and have fun with engaging speakers, educational workshops, contests and more.

If you are a first-time attendee, Rural Mutual Insurance will pay the conference registration fee for you and a guest and two nights lodging at the Kalahari Resort. Registration fee includes registrant meals, workshop sessions and entertainment. BUT HURRY! This sponsorship is limited to 50 individuals/couples! Complete the short application by August 15 at <http://bit.ly/YFARuralSponsorship>

REWARD

Qualify for Cash - Refer A Friend

Any YFA member who refers a first-time attendee who is accepted for sponsorship and attends the event will qualify for a \$100 cash award.

★ Wisconsin Farm Bureau
★ Young Farmer
and Agriculturist
Program

St. Croix County President's Message



Greetings Farm Bureau members,

The summer activities of Farm Bureau are rapidly approaching.

The St. Croix County Fair will be here before we know it. We are always looking for more help in the food stand. We would love it if you

would join us and work for a few hours. You are sure to have a good time. If you are willing to work, please contact Melanie Peterson or Jenny Mueller.

The beginning of the policy development process will be

starting soon with the multi-county meeting on **August 3** at the Stout Ale House in Menomonie. If you have an idea that you want presented at the St. Croix County Farm Bureau annual meeting, this is the place to start. Join us and let your voice be heard.

By the time you read this the New Richmond FFA and Ellis Frank with the Northeast Iowa Technical College judging teams will have returned from their international trip. We look forward to hearing from them at the annual meeting in September.

Dave Kruschke
President, St. Croix County Farm Bureau

St. Croix County Fair Is Right Around the Corner and We Need Your Help

The 2017 St. Croix County Fair is set for **July 19-23**.

The St. Croix County Farm Bureau will once again be operating their food stand, which includes those famous deep-fried Ellsworth cheese curds.

The food stand operates from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. every day of the fair and we could use your help. Please consider spending a few hours serving your friends and neighbors at the St. Croix County Fair food stand. A free meal is included for any volunteer working at least a three-hour shift.

To schedule your preferred time, please contact Melanie Peterson at 715.665.2142 or Jenny Mueller at 715.749.3583 to schedule your preferred time.

Profits from the food stand are used to support many area organizations and activities throughout the year. Some of these include donations to local food pantries, dairy promotion events, Ag in the Classroom, local 4-H and FFA



support, sponsorship of ag day on campus at UW-River Falls and scholarships for local high school seniors.

Many hands make for light work. Thank you in advance for your willingness to help.

Save the Date: Farm City Day Saturday, August 19

The 2017 Farm City Day will be held at the Harsdorf family's Trim-bel Valley Dairy Farm, 3022 Pierce Saint Croix Road in Spring Valley.

As always, it takes a tremendous volunteer force to host a successful event like Farm City Day. Every year, we have a number of 4-H members and families volunteer to help at Farm City Day. This is a great community service project, and can be fun, too. There are opportunities to help serve lunch, ice cream, assist with the petting barn yard and more.

If you are interested in helping and are at least 10 years of age or older, please contact the UW-Extension office at 715.531.1930.



Everyone is welcome to attend and the event will take place rain or shine. Find us on Facebook or visit our website at www.sccfarmcityday.com.

New Richmond FFA Family, Friends, Alumni Host June Dairy Day



St. Croix County Farm Bureau member Leslie Svacina coordinated the corn box for children to play in for the day. It was a big hit.

The 2nd annual June Dairy Day was held on June 3 at Cyclone Park in New Richmond.

The event featured a pancake breakfast and activities celebrating the community's rich heritage in dairy farming and agriculture.

Activities included an antique tractor show, petting zoo, face painting, pedal tractors, hay ride, corn box and dairy and agriculture education.

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, Steven Mueller	715.977.1224
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
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Save the Date: St. Croix County Annual Meeting

When: Wednesday, September 20

Where: Baldwin Legion

The New Richmond FFA Dairy Cattle Judging team will be joining us at the St. Croix County Farm Bureau annual meeting to talk about participating in the International Dairy Judging Tour to Scotland, Belgium, England and Germany.

A formal invite and additional information will be coming soon.

Calling All Members

Pierce and St. Croix County Farm Bureaus are seeking individuals interested in serving a term on the board of directors. Board meetings are held once a month with St. Croix County at 8 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month and Pierce County at 7:30 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month. We would love to have you join us.

If you are interested or have questions, please contact District 9 Coordinator Katie Mattison at kmattison@wfbf.com or 866.355.7349.

"That's Just About Right" District 9 YFA Members Attend Concert



District 9 Young Farmer and Agriculturist members were "not strong enough to say no" to Blackhawk at Cinder City Days in Altoona on June 10. About 25 members got together to network, enjoy an evening off the farm and have a great time at the concert.

St. Croix: Welcome New Members

Steven Alderton, Christopher Derosier*, Marvin Johnson, Steven Kreyer, Joe Mentink*, Alexander Miller, Kelly Rosenbush, Jason Schoonover, Lauren Trealoff, Jon Trinko and Michael Wittstock.

*Denotes voting membership.