

St. Croix County Farm Bureau

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Rural Mutual Agents in St. Croix County:

<p>Nicholas Jenkins Tom Jenkins Pamela Singerhouse (715) 796-2207</p>	<p>Ken Truax - District Manager Leah Close Steve Jenkins (715) 425-8121</p>
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Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

District 9 Policy Development Meetings

Just a Reminder...

District 9 Policy Development meetings:

Tuesday, August 5

11:30 am	Tee Away Golf Course Ladysmith
7:30 pm	The Orchard Baldwin



For directions or questions, contact Katie Mattison, District 9 Coordinator at 715.418.0975 or kmattison@wbf.com.

Farm City Day Set for August 9

The 2014 Farm City Day will be held Saturday, August 9 at the Zwald family's Bomaz Farm near Hammond. Every year nearly 100 4-H members and families volunteer to help at Farm City Day.

This is a great community service project, and can be fun too. As always, it takes a tremendous volunteer force to host a successful event like Farm City Day. If you are interested in helping out, please contact the St. Croix County Extension office at 715.531.1930.

UW
Extension
University of Wisconsin-Extension



*Your county
extension office*

Rural Mutual Sponsors YFA Conference

Again this year, Rural Mutual is generously offering sponsorship for those who have never attended the WFBF YFA Conference in the past to become involved in our organization by attending this year's event. From the applications received by August 15, Rural will select up to 100 first-timers to receive sponsorship to the conference. Sponsorship will include the conference registration fee and two nights lodging at the Kalahari Resort.

In addition, Rural recognizes that it is critical for these new members to have a mentor at the county level. Thus, any YFA who refers new YFA members who are selected for sponsorship to attend this year's event may qualify for a \$100 cash award (you must be present at the Friday, December 6 banquet and program to collect the cash award).

All participants must be Farm Bureau members by September 30, 2014 to qualify for sponsorship. If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Tracy Pape, Rural Mutual Insurance Company, at 608.828.5401 or tpape@ruralins.com.



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!



2014 Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation
Young Farmer and Agriculturist Conference

AGENDA

Friday, December 5

Afternoon: Free Time
3:00 p.m. Registration/Check-in
5:00 p.m. First-Timers' Orientation
6:00 p.m. Banquet and Program
7:30 p.m. District YFA Meetings
8:30 p.m. YFA Reception/Entertainment
Featuring Mantz Brothers Band

Saturday, December 6

7:00 a.m. Registration/Check-in
8:00 a.m. Discussion Meet Contestant Orientation
8:30 a.m. Discussion Meet Quarter Finals
10:30 a.m. YFA Buffet Brunch and Program
12:30 p.m. Excellence in Ag Presentations and Achievement Award Interviews
1:30 p.m. Discussion Meet Semi-Finals
2:00 p.m. Trade Show opens
2:40 p.m. Breakout Learning Sessions
4:30 p.m. Reception – Trade Show
6:00 p.m. Farm Bureau Extravaganza!
8:30 p.m. Free Time

Sunday, December 7

7:30 a.m. Morning Devotional
8:30 a.m. Collegiate Discussion Meet Final
9:30 a.m. YFA Discussion Meet Final
10:30 a.m. Buffet Brunch and Program
• Announcement of YFA Contest winners
12:00 p.m. YFA Conference Ends



Like us on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/WisconsinYFA

A special offer from **Rural Mutual** Insurance Company

If you've never attended this event before, Rural Mutual wants to sponsor you and your family. Just complete the sponsorship application on the back of this form and send it to the address at the bottom of the page. You may apply as an individual or as a couple, but don't delay - only 50 double-occupancy rooms are available, and the deadline to apply is August 15!

If you are a Farm Bureau member age 18-35 and are selected for sponsorship, Rural Mutual will pay the conference registration fee for you and your spouse/guest and two nights lodging at the Kalahari Resort. Registration fee includes registrant meals, workshop sessions and entertainment. If selected, you will be notified by September 12, and additional details regarding the conference will be mailed to you with a conference registration form that you will be required to complete.

Refer a Friend - Qualify for Cash!

Any YFA member who refers another who is accepted for sponsorship and attends the event will qualify for a \$100 cash award. (Limit: One award per family - you must be present at Friday night's banquet to qualify.) See referral form on reverse side.





COUNTYnews

ST. CROIX COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION

YFA Members Speak Up for Ag in Washington, D.C.

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Young Farmer and Agriculturist members from across the state took some time out of their busy schedules June 2-6 to head to Washington, D.C. to advocate for agriculture. St. Croix County Farm Bureau YFA member Kirsten Konder was among the attendees of the event. While in Washington, YFA members met with officials from the American Farm Bureau Federation and the German Embassy, their legislators to discuss current agricultural topics such as the EPA rule, immigration and taxes and

representatives with the Center for Consumer Freedom to learn more about HumaneWatch and similar programs.

The YFA Washington, D.C. trip is sponsored by Rural Mutual Insurance Company and Growmark FS. The event is designed to give young farmers and agriculturists an opportunity to further explore leadership, see how farm bureau policy works and give them a first-hand experience of Farm Bureau at a national level.



YFA members posed for a photo with Senator Tammy Baldwin.



YFA members enjoyed their D.C. experience.

YFA Members Attend "Farmland"

On May 1, members travelled to Oakdale, MN to see the new film, "Farmland." Most Americans have never stepped foot on a farm or ranch or even talked to the people who grow and raise the food they eat. Farmland takes an intimate look at the lives of farmers and ranchers in their twenties, all of whom are responsible for running their farms. Through this film from award-winning director, James Moll, you'll step inside the world of farming for a first-hand glimpse into the lives of young farmers and ranchers. Learn about their high-risk/high-reward jobs and passion for a way of life that has been passed down from generation to generation, yet continues to evolve. Director James Moll traveled across the country meeting young farmers and ranchers. To watch the trailer and to catch a glimpse of stories shared during his interviews visit the website: www.farmlandfilm.com.



YFA members from around District 9 travelled to Oakdale, MN to see a showing of the new film, "Farmland".

Meet Katie Mattison, New District 9 Coordinator



Hello Farm Bureau members!

Spring has finally arrived and planting season is now in full swing. It is an exciting time of year with new beginnings and I am excited to begin a new chapter in my life serving as your District 9 Coordinator.

I would like to share a little bit about myself. I grew up in Amery on my parents elk farm and was very involved in 4-H and FFA. In 2005, I graduated from UW-River Falls with a bachelors degree in agriculture business and have spent the past 8 years as an agricultural lender. I am also a 2013 graduate of the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Institute and recently served on the WFBF YFA Committee representing District 9.

I have a passion for agriculture and I look forward to working with all of you to promote this great industry. If you have any questions, comments or ideas please feel free to contact me. I would love to hear from you.

Katie Mattison
District 9 Coordinator

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President's Message



the county and it can be fun too.

Summer is here and there are a lot of things happening in Farm Bureau, including the St. Croix County Fair, July 16-20. Farm Bureau will once again be having its food stand and we would like to encourage you to help out for a while. It is always nice to help support Farm Bureau and catch up with others from around

If you have an issue that you would like to see Farm Bureau take a look at, our district policy development meeting is coming up on August 5 in Baldwin at The Orchard. Farm Bureau is a grassroots organization and this is where all state policy starts, on the local level. ALL members are invited to attend and discuss issues important to agriculture. If you can't make the meeting but have an issue that you would like addressed, feel free to contact myself or any of the other St. Croix County board members.

Farm City Day will be held on August 9 at Bomaz Farm near Hammond. This is a great opportunity to educate the public about agriculture. Farm Bureau sponsors this event as well as providing beef promotion and Ag in the Classroom activities during the day. We hope to see you there.

Remember to be safe this summer and I hope to see many of you at the fair!

Dave Kruschke

St. Croix County Farm Bureau President

St. Croix Central Student is Essay Contest Winner

Emily Wehausen, a fifth grade student, is the St. Croix County and District 9 winner of the Ag in the Classroom Essay Contest. Wisconsin fourth and fifth grade students were asked to write a 100 to 300 word essay with the theme, "Wisconsin Gardens Provide Many Food Choices for Us."

Emily is the daughter of Robert and Roxann Wehausen. Mindy Rudiger is her fifth grade teacher at St. Croix Central School District in Hammond.



(L to R) Jenny Mueller, St. Croix County Farm Bureau, Emily Wehausen, District 9 Essay Contest winner and Mindy Rudiger, fifth grade teacher.

Here is Emily's essay:

Many people say that they don't want any more farms in their neighborhoods. After all, there already are a bunch of farms near them. For the farmers, the story is different. Farming is their way of earning money. Just like other people own a business, farmers own a farm. So why question their rights? Wisconsin farms are nice to have around, in many ways.

Wisconsin farms offer many healthy food choices. First of all, farms grow many foods, such as: corn, beans, peas, pumpkins, squash, strawberries and more. Farms can even grow wheat or oats, things that make your favorite sweet treats and snacks. Also, when you go to a grocery store, what do you think goes on the fresh fruits, veggies, and meat? Surely not chemicals, right? Wrong. If you get food from a farm, you won't have to worry about all the chemicals you are eating. Bon appetite!

Farms lead to many enjoyable times. Have you ever been cherry picking with your family? Getting up on a ladder and grabbing the biggest, reddest, juiciest one; laughing with your family about how Aunt Krista couldn't get up the ladder, that's something you will never forget. The hay ride is another fun thing. Who doesn't like spending some family time, laughing and bouncing?

Once you know what farms can do for a person or family, you might just say, come on guys. Let's start a garden! Gardens aren't very different from farms. The only difference is that you can enjoy the foods right at your home, fresh and delicious. Who wants a snack?

Wisconsin FSA Announces July 15 Report Crops and Prevent Plant Acreage

Submitted by Kelly Gullixson, St. Croix County FSA

After spring planting, farmers need to certify their 2014 acreages by the July 15 reporting deadline to the St. Croix County Farm Service Agency (FSA) in Baldwin. Filing an accurate acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage and prevented planting acreage is required to establish eligibility for most FSA programs that were enacted in the 2014 Farm Bill.

The following exceptions apply to the July 15 reporting deadline:

- If the crop has not been planted by July 15, then the acreage must be reported no later than 15 calendar days after planting is completed.
- If a farmer acquires additional acreage after July 15, then the acreage must be reported no later than 30 calendar days after purchase or acquiring the lease. Appropriate documentation must be provided to the county office.

Failed acreage must be reported before disposition (destroyed, replanted or put to another use) of the crop and prevented planting must be reported no later than 15 days after the final planting date of the crop. Final planting date for corn for grain is May 31; corn for silage is June 5 and soybeans is June 10.

For crops enrolled in programs like NAP (Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program), acreage reports must be completed by the earlier of July 15 or the beginning harvest date of the crop. In addition, the deadline for reporting certain NAP crops for the 2015 program year will be here in early fall.

The deadline to timely file an acreage report for 2015 perennial forages and fall seeded small grains and wheat is November 15, 2014.

For more information on acreage reporting, additional NAP reporting deadline or any other information, please contact the St. Croix County FSA office at 715.684.2874 ext. 2.

FSA County Nominations Begin June 15

Submitted by Kelly Gullixson, St. Croix County FSA

St. Croix County Farm Service Agency (FSA) announced that FSA county committee farmer candidate nominations began June 15 and continue through August 1 with elections taking place this fall. The county committee election is for local administrative area three (LAA3) which includes the Townships of Baldwin, Cady, Eau Galle, Hammond, Pleasant Valley, Rush River and Springfield.

All LAA3 farmers are encouraged to participate in this year's county committee elections by nominating candidates by the August 1 deadline. County committees are a vital link between the farm community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture and provide an opportunity to farmers for their opinions and ideas to be heard. We have been seeing an increase in the number of nominations of women and minority candidates and I hope that trend continues.

To be eligible to serve on an FSA county committee, a person must participate or cooperate in a program administered by FSA, be eligible to vote in a county committee election and reside in LAA3. Farmers may nominate themselves or others, and organizations representing minorities and women also may nominate candidates. 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 online at www.fsa.usda.gov/elections. Nomination forms for the 2014 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.

While FSA county committees do not approve or deny farm ownership or operating loans, they make decisions on disaster and conservation programs, emergency programs, commodity price support loan programs and other agricultural issues. Members serve three-year terms.

FSA will mail ballots to eligible voters beginning November 3. The voted ballots are due back to the local county office either via mail or in person by December 1. Newly elected committee members and alternates take office on January 1, 2015.

The annual County Committee open house will be held at the St. Croix County Farm Service Agency on Wednesday, July 9 from 1 to 3 p.m. FSA county office staff will be sharing information on FSA's County Committee election process and the importance of participating.

For more information, call 715.684.2874 ext 2 or visit the St. Croix County FSA office in Baldwin.

Leopold Conservation Award Seeks Nominees



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."

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

Sand County Foundation and Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation are accepting applications for the \$10,000 Leopold Conservation

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 Farm Credit, DuPont Pioneer, The Mosaic Company, The Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation, American Transmission Company, Badgerland Financial, We Energies, Alliant Energy Foundation, Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation and the Wisconsin Corn Growers Association.

About the Leopold Conservation Award: The Leopold Conservation Award is a competitive award that recognizes landowner achievement in voluntary conservation. The award consists of a crystal depicting Aldo Leopold and a check for \$10,000. Sand County Foundation presents the Leopold Conservation Award in California, Colorado, Kentucky, Nebraska, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Wisconsin and Wyoming.



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.

About Sand County Foundation: Sand County Foundation - www.sandcounty.net - is a private, non-profit conservation group dedicated to working with private landowners to advance the use of ethical and scientifically sound land management practices for the benefit of people and their rural landscapes.

UW-Extension Beef Cow/Calf Meetings Planned

While Wisconsin is known as "America's Dairyland", interest in raising beef cattle is on the rise. Within Wisconsin, St. Croix County ranks in the top 10 counties for the number of beef cow/calf herds. A recent USDA census showed that a majority of cow/calf farms have less than 50 head of cattle, but raise nearly one third of the U.S. calf crop annually. With a plentiful supply of out-of-use dairy farms and pasture land available, many who work off the farm or have retired from dairying find raising beef cattle a natural fit for their available facilities.



A UW-Extension Beef Cow/Calf producer meeting is being offered to farmers of all sizes and the agriculture professionals who service their farms. Speaker topics will include preventing and managing pinkeye, herd sire health and management, and vaccination protocols for your herd. Attendees of the meeting will qualify for one continuing education credit for Beef Quality Assurance recertification. The meeting will be held at the Ag Service and Education Center in Baldwin. There is no cost for this program, however we do request pre-registration for planning purposes.

This beef cow/calf meeting is sponsored by the UW-Extension Beef and Livestock Teams. For more information please contact Ryan Sterry, St. Croix County Agriculture Agent, at 715.531.1930.

Institute Applications Due August 15

The Farm Bureau Institute is a year-long premier leadership training course at a graduate level whose mission is to produce strong and effective county Farm Bureau leaders. The training focuses on personal growth and development, public speaking, working effectively with all forms of media, creativity training, understanding the role and functions of WFBF and Rural Mutual Insurance Company, training on working with government at the local, state and national levels, working to bridge the generational divide among volunteers, consideration of current national and international agricultural issues and completion of a Farm Bureau Personal Development Leadership Plan.

To obtain a copy of the application and to learn more about the program, please visit wfbf.com/programsevents/leadership-training-institute.



St. Croix County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, David Kruschke 715.246.6461
 Vice President, Randy Roquette 715.684.3303
 Secretary/Treasurer, Jenny Mueller 715.749.3583
 Women's Chair, Melanie Peterson 715.665.2142
 YFA Chair, Eric Hoffman 715.265.4168

Director, Fritz Anding 715.425.5058
 Director, Tim Bazille 715.698.2328
 Director, Lynn Brosi 715.425.5575
 Director, James Lund 715.684.3936
 Director, Dean Mueller 715.760.1501
 Director, Carl Oehlke 715.796.2712
 Director, Gary Peterson 715.665.2142
 Director, Greg Zwald 715.222.4349

St. Croix County Farm Bureau 888.830.2574
 WFBF Board Director, Jim Holte 715.835.6708
 District 9 Women's Chair, Mary Prestrud 715.455.1495
 District 9 Coordinator, Katie Mattison 866.355.7349
 RMIC District Manager, Ken Truax 715.514.4477

Mark Your Calendars for the St. Croix County Fair - July 16-20

The St. Croix County Fair is just around the corner. This year's fair is July 16-20 and the St. Croix County Farm Bureau will once again be having its food stand including those famous cheese curds. Please consider spending an hour or two helping out. If you can help out, please contact Melanie Peterson at 715.665.2142.



- Proceeds from the fair stand support our community:
- Each month \$50 is donated to a local food pantry. Food pantries in River Falls, Baldwin, New Richmond and Zion Lutheran of Woodville have been recipients.
 - Dairy promotion events such as providing milk and cheese at the visitors center on Highway 94 in recognition of June Dairy Month.
 - Sponsorships for WFBF Women's seminar for local women to develop their leadership skills.
 - Ag in the Classroom support. Purchase of books for local libraries.
 - Scholarships for high school seniors.

Welcome New Members

Rebecca Brandt, Gerard Carufel, Tara Conlin, Patrick Delander, Janie Du Bois, Lennon Germain, Robert Hartman, Laton Henderson, Ashley Kieckhofer, Steve Kimes, Kevin Krueger, Steven Lindblom, Jacob Lynum, Christa Mahnken, Jason Mc Laren, Frank Meyer, Jordan Myers, Michael Myers, Brad Obermueller, Ben Omann, Scott Owens, Jeff Peterson, Troy Peterson, Greg Rosno, Steven Schulla, David Thompson, Brian Volkert, Lance Wirth, Tom Zwald, Town of St. Joseph and Village of Deer Park.

Save the Date!



St. Croix County Farm Bureau's Annual Meeting will be held Tuesday, September 9. Watch your mail for more information.