



Pierce | St. Croix County Farm Bureaus

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Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

Pierce County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting

Date: Thursday, September 13

Time: 7 p.m. - Registration

7:30 p.m. - Business meeting followed by meal

Location: Martell Town Hall, W5581 U.S. Highway 63, Martell

Save the date to visit with your farm neighbors and take part in setting policies that your Farm Bureau works to support. All Farm Bureau members are encouraged to attend this important meeting to help create policy resolutions and vote in elections for the county board directors.

Keynote Speaker: WFBF Chief Administrative Officer Dale Beaty

Please plan on attending and let your voice be heard.

For more information or to RSVP by **September 10**, please contact District 9 Coordinator Katie Mattison at kmattison@wfbf.com or 715.418.0975 (call or text).



St. Croix County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting

Date: Wednesday, September 26

Time: 7 p.m. - Registration

7:30 p.m. - Meal, followed by the business meeting

Location: Baldwin Legion, 410 Maple Street, Baldwin

Join friends and neighbors at the **St. Croix County Farm Bureau annual meeting** where we will celebrate accomplishments, create policy, vote for directors and elect delegates to the WFBF Annual Meeting.

Please plan on attending and let your voice be heard.

For more information or to RSVP by **September 20**, please contact District 9 Coordinator Katie Mattison at kmattison@wfbf.com or 715.418.0975 (call or text).

Door prizes will be awarded.



USDA and SCORE Launch Innovative Mentorship Effort to Support New Farmers and Ranchers

By **Aaron Moore**, USDA Farm Service Agency, Pierce/St Croix County Executive Director

USDA is collaborating with SCORE the nation's largest network of volunteer, expert business mentors in an effort to provide free business mentoring to farmers, ranchers and agricultural and rural business owners.

SCORE volunteer mentors have backgrounds in finance,

accounting, marketing, operations, business and financial planning. They will provide local expertise and free one-on-one business mentoring to new and existing farmers and business owners. Together they will work through the process of starting up or maintaining ag and rural businesses. No matter what stage your business is in, SCORE volunteer mentors can help

in developing business plans, navigating financing and legal issues, identifying new markets and topics in order to help you succeed. For information on SCORE, visit www.score.org

FSA invites you to learn more and sign up for a mentor at <https://newfarmers.usda.gov/mentorship>.



COUNTYnews

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

Spring Valley Student Named Pierce County Ag in the Classroom Essay Winner



Chase Lee was the Pierce County winner of the Ag in the Classroom Essay Contest. Pictured with Chase is his teacher Mrs. Stevens and Pierce County Farm Bureau women's chair Monica Krings.

Chase Lee, a fourth-grade student from Spring Valley, is the Pierce County winner of the Agriculture in the Classroom essay contest.

Chase is the son of Brandon Lee and Monica Zignego. Mrs. Stevens is his fourth-grade teacher at Spring Valley Elementary.

Pierce County fourth and fifth

graders were asked to write a 100- to 300-word essay with the theme, 'Inventions that have made agriculture great.'

Chase's winning essay

The Steam Tractors

Thomas Savery built the first steam engine in 1678, Thomas Newcomen made it a little bit better. James Watt improved the steam engine in the late 1800s so it was really useful. The steam engine provided steady power, it didn't tire after hard work, and it only was "fed" when it worked, instead of year-round, like animals.

The first powered farm implements in the early 1800s were portable engines-steam on wheels that could be used to drive mechanical farm machinery by way of a flexible belt. Around 1850, the first tractors engines were developed from there, and were widely adopted for agricultural use. Steam-power agricultural engines remained in use well into the 20th century. The most successful early application of steam in farming was to plow.

The steam engine could be used for plowing, pulling, belt work, or other uses known as the steam tractor engine. The steam traction engine's popularity soared during the 1890s. Work was easier for the farmer as the steam engine pulled the plow and turned the belt to thresh the grain. In 1892, John Froelich build the first practical gasoline powered tractor in Clayton County Iowa.

Nearly 50 Pierce County students wrote essays for the competition sponsored by the Pierce County Farm Bureau, Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation, Insight FS and We Energies.

Farm Bureau's Ag in the Classroom program provides teachers and K-12 students with an understanding of how their food is produced. The program seeks to work within existing curricula to provide basic information on our nation's largest industry: Agriculture.

Meet: Mary Peterson Norton, St. Croix County Farm Bureau Member

Years in Farm Bureau: 40

Hobbies: Sewing, Embroidery, Scrapbooking, Horses

Family: Husband Jack, passed away September 2015 and stepson Troy lives in Utah.

Farm: I grew up on a Guernsey dairy farm that milked 120 head. We owned more than 400 acres but ran many more. Most of the crops we grew were to feed our animals. My mom and dad have passed away, but the family is still renting the farm property through our trust.

Occupation: I have been trucking for 39 years, hauling Jennie-O Turkey products and fruits and vegetables. I have hauled milk for Tri-State Milk Producers and meat for Packerland Packing.

Why did you choose agriculture? The reason I chose to haul agricultural products is because that is what I grew up on, what I know the most about and what keeps me rooted to the people who feed the world.

Why did you become involved in Farm Bureau? My dad was president of our county Farm Bureau for most of my life on the farm. Mom also was involved in the women's program. It was what I was raised to believe.

What to you think are the greatest benefits of being a Farm Bureau member? It's a grassroots organization and it works for what it's members believe in and strives to keep the family farms alive and profitable.

Are you involved with any other organizations or activities? I was a member, president and treasurer of the Wisconsin Association of Women Highway Safety Leaders until it dissolved in 2017. I also

have been active in the Trucker Buddy International organization since the early 1990s. I write to five different school classes about my travels across the U.S.

Why do you think it is important to be a part of the agriculture industry? Agriculture is the grassroots of our country. Lots of countries, besides our own, rely on our products. Our cattle, fruit, vegetables, etc., feed the world. I have almost four million miles traveling across this great nation of ours. I see all types of agriculture, many different types of crops and different ways that people raise animals. Agriculture is the foundation of our country.



04/23/2018

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

2 Bergseng's Message

Dairy Daze of Summer
Washington, D.C. Fly-In
Discussion Meet
Pierce Contacts

3 Kruschke's Message

Scholarships Announced
St. Croix County Fair
Calling All Members
St. Croix Contacts

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 Secretary, Laura Benitz 715.220.8962
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 YFA Chair, Ryan Bailey 715.529.2266

Director, Dave Bechel 715.505.4174
 Director, Kevin Knutson 715.760.2692
 Director, John Krings 715.495.6285

Pierce County Farm Bureau 866.795.4792

District 9 Contacts

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 District 9 Promotion and Education
 Chair, Kay Gilbertson 715.271.8141
 District 9 Coordinator, Katie Mattison 715.283.4845
 RMIC District Manager, Laurie Peterson 608.347.0383

Outstanding Young Farmer and Agriculturist Discussion Meet

The District 9 Young Farmer and Agriculturist Discussion Meet was held on August 1 at the Stout Ale House in Menomonie in conjunction with the District Policy Development Meet. The question that participants discussed was: **As the Voice of Agriculture, how can Farm Bureau be more inclusive of all agriculture and production practices? This includes, but is not limited to, women in agriculture, organic production, fresh produce, forestry and aquaculture.**

Farm Bureau's strength depends on its members' ability to analyze agricultural issues and decide on solutions that best meet their needs. The Discussion Meet is an activity designed to build these crucial skills in young farmers and agriculturists. By participating, members build basic discussion skills, develop a keen understanding of important agricultural issues and explore how groups can pool knowledge to reach consensus and solve problems. Each of WFBF's nine districts holds a district meet competition late summer or fall. Three contestants from each district move on to the state competition at the YFA Conference in the Wisconsin Dells in December. **Congratulations to Laura, Isaac and Nathan who will be moving on to the state YFA Discussion Meet.**



Contestants for the District 9 Discussion Meet including: (from left) Jenna Behrends, Rusk County; Isaac Christianson, Polk County; Kirsten Konder, St. Croix County; Nathan Kringle, Barron County; Lauren McCann, Barron County; Lexi DuSell, Barron County; and Laura Benitz, Pierce County.

Pierce: Welcome New Members

Bruce Albarado*, Ronald Berger, Scott Borton, Dominic Derricks*, Matthew Freund, Brandon Hines, Herman Kreig, Mckenna Mattison, Nate Nelson, Eric Polzer, Jeff Richardson* and Nate Zignego.

*Denotes voting membership.

Pierce County President's Message



Dear Farm Bureau members,

The summer parade season is upon us. The Town and Country 4-H Club passed out 4,500 cartons of chocolate milk and 100 pounds of cheese curds at the River Falls Days parade on July 13.

On Sunday, September 9 the St. Croix Stars 4-H Club will hand out 2,500 cartons of chocolate milk and 50 pounds of cheese curds at the Prescott Daze parade.

We wouldn't be able to participate in these parades without the help of our sponsors: Pierce County Dairy Promotion, First National Bank of River Falls and Prescott, Hastings Coop Creamery, Ellsworth Coop Creamery, St. Croix County Farm Bureau, River Falls Mutual Insurance, Ptaček's IGA in Prescott, Cernohous Chevrolet, Delander Trucking, Farmers of America and Dairy Queen in Prescott.

By the time you read this, the Pierce County Fair will be in the books. We are selling milk, cheese curds and cookies at our milk stand.

It is annual meeting and resolution time. If you have a resolution you want brought forward, please contact a Pierce County Farm Bureau board member.

The Pierce County Farm Bureau annual meeting will be held on **Thursday, September 13**, at the Martell Town Hall. WFBF President Jim Holte and Chief Administrative Officer Dale Beaty will be present. Noreen Falde will provide the meal. We hope to see you there.

Dean Bergseng

Pierce County Farm Bureau president

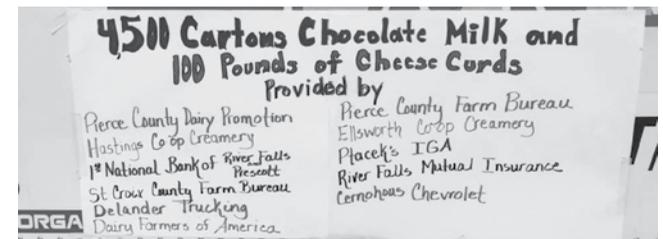
Dairy Days of Summer

Pierce County Farm Bureau continued the tradition of handing out milk and cheese curds at the River Falls Day parade on July 13. With the help of members of the Town and Country 4-H Club, 4,500 cartons of milk and 100 pounds of cheese curds were distributed to help promote Wisconsin Dairy.



Members from the Town and Country 4-H Club led by April Daniels helped pass out milk and cheese curds at the River Falls Days parade.

Join us for the Prescott Daze parade on **Sunday, September 9**, starting at 2 p.m. where St. Croix Stars 4-H Club will help pass out 2,500 cartons of chocolate milk and 50 pounds of cheese curds.



Thank you to Dean Bergseng for organizing the event, Town and Country 4-H for helping pass out milk and cheese curds and to Pierce and St. Croix Farm Bureaus, Pierce County Dairy Promotion, Hastings Coop Creamery, First National Bank of River Falls/Prescott, Delander Trucking, Dairy Farmers of America, Ellsworth Coop Creamery, Ptaček's, IGA, River Falls Mutual Insurance and Cernohous Chevrolet for donations to make these events possible.

For the Good of the Cause – Washington, D.C. Fly-In

By Julie Wadzinski, Barron County Farm Bureau Member and District 9 YFA Chair



On June 4-8, Farm Bureau young farmer leaders traveled to Washington, D.C. Julie Wadzinski, Barron County, and Andrew Winiarczyk, Sawyer County, were among the attendees.

My county Farm Bureau president, Karyn Schauf, said at a county annual meeting several years ago, "We all need to take our turn."

That simple sentence has resonated with me. Certain things, like talking to representatives and legislators, can be uncomfortable. For some of us, it is a new experience and that can be scary. For some, we might be intimidated by their titles. I know that without my Farm Bureau training and the organizing efforts of the Farm Bureau staff, I would be hard pressed to work up the courage to talk to them about issues near and dear to my heart.

This past June, I traveled with other Farm Bureau members to D.C. The trip was phenomenal. We were briefed on Federal issues, had appointments with our representatives and met with Senators as a group, toured and were briefed by USDA officials and learned the importance of trade at the New Zealand Embassy.

When it came time to meet with Representative Sean Duffy, I was a nervous rambling wreck. President Jim Holte soothed nerves with a humorous balm, "Remember, they put their pants on in the morning the same way that you do, one leg at a time." When the moment of truth came, Representative Duffy and I shared a laugh over the circumstances behind my knee injury. A dancing accident as it were. After the initial laugh, talking about tough topics like NAFTA, immigration, Farm Bill and the wolf status on the Endangered Species list was much like talking with a friend over coffee.

After the important work was done we did a night tour of the monuments with stirring stories shared by our tour guide Steve Kline, something struck me as I looked at the faces of Vietnam Women's Memorial. We all need to take our turn, be uncomfortable and do the work for the good of the cause. Washington D.C. has immortalized great leaders and common folks who sacrificed, for the good of the cause.

They took their turn, and I challenge you to take yours.

St. Croix County Presidents Message



Greetings St. Croix County Farm Bureau members,

St. Croix County Farm Bureau had a successful

spring and summer promoting agriculture. In May, we worked with Double Good 4-H passing out 1,500 cartons of milk at the Syttende Mai parade

in Woodville. In addition, we have donated funds to help Pierce County Farm Bureau pass out milk and cheese curds at the River Falls Days parade and Prescott Daze parade. Thank you to volunteers who took the time to help at the St. Croix County Farm Bureau food stand.

By the time you receive this newsletter, Farm-City Day will be over. Farm Bureau did a beef promotion as well as Ag in the Classroom activities at that event.

As we move into fall, policy development time along with annual meeting season is upon us. If you have an issue you want Farm Bureau to consider, please contact a board member or attend the annual meeting on **Wednesday, September 26.**

I hope to see many of you at the upcoming annual meeting in Baldwin.

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
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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

St. Croix County Farm Bureau Scholarship Recipients Announced

Aaron Daniels, Austin Raymond and Jarin Peterson are the recipients of St. Croix County Farm Bureau scholarships in the amount of \$250 each. Applicants completed an application that included future education plans, community and school activities and recommendations from teachers.

Congratulations to Aaron, Austin and Jarin. We wish you the best of luck in your future endeavors.



Aaron Daniels graduated as a home school student. He is the son of Paul and April Daniels. His plan is to attend the Minneapolis Community Technical College to become an airplane technician. Aaron was active in 4-H, the River Falls High School Varsity Trap Team, soccer and is a member of the youth group at church.



Austin Raymond graduated from New Richmond High School. He is the son of Jason and Jessica Raymond. He plans to attend Northeast Iowa Community College to study ag business and dairy science. Austin was involved in basketball, football, FFA, 4-H and served as the school farm manager.



Jarin Peterson graduated from Baldwin-Woodville High School. She is the daughter of Jeff and Jodi Peterson. She plans to attend University of Minnesota-Mankato to study mortuary science. Jarin was active in art and Spanish club, soccer and 4-H.

2018 Marks Another Successful St. Croix County Fair

The St. Croix County Fair came to a close for another year but not before many fairgoers stopped by the Farm Bureau food stand to enjoy some delicious food, including the famous Ellsworth cheese curds. This year the St. Croix County Farm Bureau served up 1,500 pounds of cheese curds!

Thank you to the many volunteers who too time out of your busy schedules and helped make the St. Croix County Farm Bureau food stand successful for another year! We could not do this without you!



The ladies ran the show on the Friday of the S. Croix County Fair. Jenny Mueller, Melanie Peterson, Sandy Reischel, Sandy Roquette and Char Bazille worked hard behind the scenes to make the delicious food the Farm Bureau food stand is known for.

A special thank you to Tim Jackson of Munson Hybrids for his generous donation of water. Also,

Profits from the food stand are used to support many area organizations and activities. Some of these include donations to local food pantries, dairy promotion events, Ag in the Classroom support and scholarships for local high school seniors.



Rob Stafholt, State Representative for the 29th Assembly District, and Jim Holte, District 9 Director and Wisconsin Farm Bureau President, had a great time serving up food to fairgoers on Saturday of the St. Croix County Fair.

St. Croix: Welcome New Members

Chad Hewitt, Brett Olson, David Purdue, Chuck Sorenson, Christopher Suter, Jess Swanepoel* and Michael Younggren.

*Denotes voting membership.

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:

- St. Croix County meets at 8 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month.
- Pierce County meets 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.

WISCONSIN FARM CENTER

Free, Confidential Assistance

Hours: 7:45 am - 4:30 pm | Monday - Friday

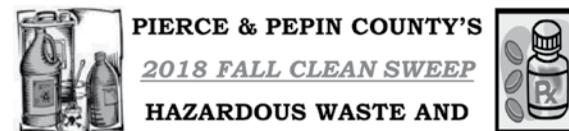
NEED TO TALK?

Are you struggling with making payments, feeling stressed or just worried you have no one to turn to for help?

CALL: 1-800-942-2474
EMAIL: FARMCENTER@WISCONSIN.GOV



MARK YOUR CALENDARS



PIERCE & PEPIN COUNTY'S

2018 FALL CLEAN SWEEP

HAZARDOUS WASTE AND

PHARMACEUTICAL COLLECTION EVENT

Saturday • September 15, 2018

• 8:00 a.m. - 12 noon

Pierce County Recycling Center

• PO Box 118 • 707 N. Maple St./Hwy 65 • Ellsworth WI
• www.co.pierce.wi.us • Phone: (715) 273-3092