



Pierce | St. Croix County Farm Bureaus

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Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Is Looking for Your Story



The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation Public Relations Centennial Committee is looking to collect stories from Farm Bureau members for our upcoming centennial celebration.

Do you have a great Farm Bureau story, or do you know someone who does? Let us know about it. Farm Bureau members can submit stories at: bit.ly/FarmBureauStory

Please pass this information on to anyone who might have something to share or have them contact his or her District Coordinator. The committee's goal is to share 100 Farm Bureau stories during the centennial in 2019.

AFBF's Volunteer Recognition Program

AFBF depends on a network of volunteers to help build agricultural awareness, understanding and a positive public perception of agriculture through education.

Without volunteers spreading the story of agriculture, the Foundation would not be able to do what we do. We want to celebrate volunteers who engage with their local communities to educate the public about agriculture; whether this is through classroom visits, farm tours or fair exhibits. Help us recognize outstanding volunteers through our Volunteer Recognition Program.

Volunteers can nominate themselves or be nominated. To nominate an individual or a group of volunteers, please complete the form at www.agfoundation.org/projects/volunteer-recognition.

Please note: This is not for advocacy programs, but actual hands on educational projects. Selected volunteers will be acknowledged via Facebook, our website and in an e-newsletter for their efforts, as well as given a set of Ag Mags to use for future activities.



AFBF Hosts 2019 FUSION Conference in Milwaukee



the Promotion and Education, Women's Leadership and Young Farmers and Ranchers programs.

You will leave the conference with new friends, new ideas and new energy for your farm and Farm Bureau.

Conference Highlights

FUSION provides value for people of all ages with a variety of different activities including: Local tours in Wisconsin; Collegiate Discussion Meet; hands-on learning sessions; evening entertainment and so much more.

Mark your calendars now for the 2019 AFBF FUSION Conference. There will be great speakers, breakout sessions and evening events to bring together volunteer leaders from

Donate to WFBF Annual Meeting Silent Auction

Farm Bureau members can get items ready to donate or be ready to bid at the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Annual Meeting WFBF Foundation Silent Auction.

Due to the generosity of members, county Farm Bureau programs, businesses and sponsors, a large selection of items will be offered again this year. Bidding starts at 12 noon on Saturday and will end Sunday night before the Award's Program.

If you want to donate to the Silent Auction, forms can be downloaded at wfbf.com/about-wfbf/foundation/silentauction.

We ask that all items be new items. If you are bringing a gift certificate or gift card, please make a copy of it. The copy will be on the bidding table and the buyer will receive the original upon check out.

Please send the donation form to the WFBF office by **November 23**, bidding sheets can be made in advance and will save you time checking in.

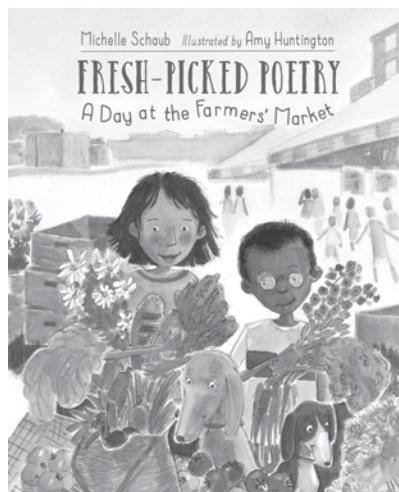
Items can be brought to the Kalahari Resorts to save postage and chance of damage in shipment.



COUNTYnews

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

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



The 2019 Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom book of the year is "Fresh-Picked Poetry – A Day at the Farmers' Market," by Michelle Schaub.

This collection of poems takes young readers to a day at an urban farmers' market. Who to see, what to eat and how produce is grown—it's all so exciting, fresh and delicious.

Readers are invited to peruse the stands and inspect vendors' wares

with poems like, "Farmer Greg's Free-Range Eggs," "Summer Checklist" and "Necessary Mess."

This year's essay topic, 'Making it happen at the Farmers' Market,' is linked with the book and students can use the book as one resource, if they choose.

The book and essay topic allow students to explore Farmers' Markets from a variety of perspectives—the farmer's preparation for the market, the people attending and buying products, the variety of products available and other happenings at the market.

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 originality and creativity. All contest rules, lesson plans and sample classroom activities are accessible at wisagclassroom.org. Essay entries must be postmarked by **April 1** and sent to the respective county Farm Bureau essay coordinator.

For questions or to get materials, please contact your county essay contest coordinator:

Pierce County Ag in the Classroom essay coordinator: Laura Benitz, 715.647.3213 or tlbenitz@gmail.com.

St. Croix County Ag in the Classroom essay coordinator: Melanie Peterson, 715.665.2142 or garmel@centurytel.net.

Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection Resource

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RECYCLING DROP-OFF HOURS

Mon. – Fri. 6am – 4:30 pm
1st & 3rd Saturday 8am – Noon
(Closed Holiday Weekends)



WE WILL BE CLOSED:

Monday, Nov. 12th (for Veterans Day)
Thursday, Nov. 22nd (Thanksgiving Day)
Friday, Nov. 23rd (Day After-Thanksgiving Day)

Merry Christmas!

WE WILL BE CLOSED:

Monday, Dec. 24th
Tuesday, Dec. 25th



WE WILL BE CLOSED:

Tuesday, January 1st, 2019

Happy New Year!



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Pierce County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Dean Bergseng 715.425.6404
 Vice President, Peter Kimball 715.307.3726
 Secretary, Laura Benitz 715.220.8962
 Treasurer, Roy Swanson 715.273.3268
 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

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 608.347.0383

Pierce: Welcome New Members

Jeffrey Baier*, Abigail Dallmann, Naomi Feuerhelm,
 Brent Halverson*, Jacob Prinsen and Sean Stoudt.

*Denotes voting membership.

New Ag Promotion and Education Summit, March 2019

On **March 8-9, 2019**, Wisconsin Farm Bureau will host a new agricultural promotion and education summit in Appleton.

The Ag LEAD Summit will give attendees the opportunity to learn more about tools, resources, ideas and best practices when advocating for agriculture and conducting promotional events.

The summit is being coordinated by WFBF's Promotion and Education Committee whose mission is to build awareness and understanding of agriculture and provide leadership development for the agricultural community.

SAVE THE DATE

New in 2019
Ag LEAD Summit

Hosted by
 Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

March 8-9, 2019

Appleton, Wisconsin

LEADERSHIP • ENGAGEMENT • ADVOCACY • DEVELOPMENT

Pierce County President's Message



Dear Farm Bureau members,

It has been another great crop year in Pierce County. As I write this it is cold, dreary, and wet out-

side. Hopefully by the time it arrives in your mailbox the weather will be sunny, warmer and drier.

Pierce County Farm Bureau made the membership goals by the September 30

deadline. We appreciate those who helped reach that goal.

Our annual meeting went well. WFBF Chief Administrative Office Dale Beaty showed a PowerPoint of his trip to Ireland. Very interesting presentation.

Two resolutions regarding dairy were passed at the meeting. Mel Pittman, candidate for Senate District 31, also attended and spoke on several issues. Our delegates to the WFBF Annual Meeting are John Krings, Dave Bechel and Peter Kimball. Laura Benitz will be attending the YFA Conference to represent Pierce

County in the Discussion Meet.

Recently, nine Farm Bureau board members from five counties interviewed candidates for the Senate District 31 seat. Both candidates, Jeff Smith and Mel Pittman, were interviewed at this event coordinated by the Volunteers for Agriculture. The group voted to support Mel Pittman, with his deep background in agriculture.

Have a safe harvest.

Dean Bergseng

Pierce County Farm Bureau president

Pierce County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting Held

Members of the Pierce County Farm Bureau held their annual meeting on September 13 at the Martell Town Hall.

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

1. We require all USDA bear traps be equipped with trap monitors to both reduce time spent by farmers and to ensure the health of the trapped animals.
2. We want to see better tracking and studying of movements of any relocated bear.
3. We want to see the removal of the \$10,000 maximum payout from the Department of Natural Resources for wildlife depredation programs and changing to a percentage payout system where farms are compensated equally based on damage amounts.
4. We require that the Department of Natural Resources create sub-zones for better control of over-populated wildlife (bear, deer, goose and turkey) in a small area.
5. We support increased funding for each county to have access to UW-Extension agents.
6. Farm Bureau supports the use of tools and resources to ensure livestock and herds are protected on our farms, including the use of livestock guardian dogs. Livestock guardian dogs do not serve the same purpose as a general household pet and have been used for centuries to protect livestock from predators that are difficult to control through any other means. Livestock guardian dogs live with their herd all day, every day, and are well-cared for, as well as having access to food and shelter at



John Krings presented the Distinguished Service to Farm Bureau Award to James Dettling. James served on the Pierce County Farm Bureau Board in the 1980s. He, along with Harold Turner and Miron, were instrumental in starting the milk stand at the Pierce County Fair.



The Pierce County Farm Bureau board of directors are: back row (from left) John Krings, Dean Bergseng, Peter Kimball, Ryan Bailey, WFBF CAO Dale Beaty; front row: (from left) Dave Bechel, Laura Benitz and Roy Swanson.

7. We support a one-time federal and state capital gains tax holiday on herd dispersal for mature cattle over 2 years old going to slaughter.
8. Amend page 1, line 39 to add 2% and whole milk options.
9. We oppose a tax on agricultural dyed fuel.
10. We support availability of ARC & PLC coverage through FSA as well as MPCI coverage under the federal crop insurance program for crops planted after harvesting a forage crop.
11. We support some form of dairy supply management.

In addition to the regular business at the Pierce County Farm Bureau annual meeting, WFBF Chief Administrative Office Dale Beaty gave a presentation on his trip to Ireland.

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



Monica Krings was recognized with a mum for her many years of service as the women's chair on the Pierce County Farm Bureau board. Monica retired from the board at the annual meeting. Thank you Monica for your years of service to Pierce County Farm Bureau.

St. Croix County Presidents Message



Greetings St. Croix County Farm Bureau members,

St. Croix County Farm has completed

another membership year and I am pleased to announce that we have finished with a membership gain.

This past year we put more effort into local affairs with Leslie Svacina leading the charge. With her leadership in this area, we have already supported the soil and water goals of the county with a couple suggestions.

At the St. Croix Farm Bureau annual meeting we recognized Dennis Hurtis with the Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award for his volunteering at the St. Croix County fairgrounds and maintenance year-round. Dennis also is very active in the American Legion

as a past commander and serves on the honor guard for funerals.

Also, at the annual meeting we welcomed a new YFA chair, Lexi DuSell. We look forward to having her on the board. Thank you to our outgoing YFA chair, Kirsten Konder for her past service.

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, Lexi DuSell 715.415.6701

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

St. Croix County Annual Meeting Recap

The St. Croix County Farm Bureau annual meeting was held September 26 at the Baldwin American Legion. Members enjoyed a dinner catered by Ruth Hurtgen and then voted on policy, board of directors and delegates to the WFBF Annual Meeting.

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

1. The term 'meat' should only be used to describe food products that are derived from live animals.
2. We support the use of tools and resources to ensure livestock and herds are protected on our farms, including the use of livestock guardian dogs. Livestock guardian dogs

do not serve the same purpose as a general household pet and have been used for centuries to protect livestock from predators that are difficult to control through any other means. Livestock guardian dogs live with their herd all day, every day, and are well-cared for, as well as having access to food and shelter at their will. Use of these animals as a tool for livestock protection should be supported.

3. We support county zoning changes to encourage small businesses and ag tourism in St. Croix County.
4. We do not favor transferring CAFO permitting from DNR to DATCP.

For information on the St. Croix County Farm Bureau, contact 888.830.2574 or visit wfbf.com/about/counties/st-croix.

Member Communication: Request for Emails

In an effort to expand its outreach to members, the St. Croix Farm Bureau has a Facebook page and will be starting a monthly email member update. To make sure you receive the new email communication, please send your email address to District Coordinator Katie Mattison at kmattison@wfbf.com.

St. Croix: Welcome New Members

Amanda Finke, Frances Heinbuch, Michael Krupa, Joseph Mathe, Jody Testaberg* and David Winget

*Denotes voting membership.

Upcoming UW-Extension Workshops

By Ryan Sterry, St. Croix County UW-Extension

- **December 11:** *So you want to raise beef? Adding beef to a dairy operation or switching from dairy to beef.*
Time: 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
Location: Ag Service and Education Center, Baldwin
- **January 8 and February 5:** *Pesticide Applicator Training.*
Time: 9:30 a.m.
Location: Ag Service and Education Center, Baldwin

For information, contact me at 715.531.1930 or ryan.sterry@ces.uwex.edu.

SAVE the DATE



The 2018-2019 St. Croix County Farm Bureau board of directors are: back row (from left) Randy Roquette, WFBF President Jim Holte, Greg Zwald, Dean Mueller and Jim Lund; front row (from left) Lexi DuSell, Leslie Svacina, Melanie Peterson, Jenny Peterson, Dave Kruschke and Lynn Brosi. Missing from photo is Gary Peterson and Steve Mueller.



Dennis Hurtis was awarded the St. Croix County Farm Bureau Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award to honor the work that he does for the St. Croix County Fairgrounds. Dennis is the go-to man and is well known throughout the grounds. Besides his hours of service, Dennis is the commander for the American Legion in New Richmond and serves on the honor guard.

St. Croix Farm Bureau Hosts Policymakers Farm Tours

By Leslie Svacina, St. Croix County Farm Bureau Vice President

Given St. Croix County's proximity to the Twin Cities Metro area, the county is one of the fastest growing, in terms of population, in the state. This growth also means that fewer residents in the county are familiar with agriculture and rural living.

Due to this trend, on August 28 St. Croix County Farm Bureau hosted a policymaker farm tour for elected officials at the local, state and federal level who represent constituents in St. Croix County. Candidates running for open seats in the fall election also were invited.

Some of the guests included: Rep. Romaine Quinn; Tom Coulter, County Board of Supervisors, District 13; Bob Feidler, County Board of Supervisors, District 9; Gene Hanson, Town of Warren Chair; Ryan Cornett, Western Wisconsin Regional Representative for U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin; and Kim Butler, candidate for State Assembly, District 28.

"We wanted to provide an open environment to learn, discuss and ask questions about farming while visiting three diverse family farms in St. Croix County," said Leslie Svacina, tour committee chair and St. Croix County Farm Bureau vice president. "We also wanted to foster the continued development of relationships between our area farmers and agricultural organizations with local leaders as they make decisions that impact agriculture, small businesses and rural areas in our county."

During the tour, policymakers visited family farms in St. Croix County. The first stop of the day was at Bomaz Farms in Hammond. There the Zwald and Schalla families care for 800 dairy cows along with young stock. The second stop brought participants to K-Lund Angus Farm in Woodville. Jim and Roxanne Lund raise 200 angus beef cows and calves. For the final stop, policymakers visited White Pine Berry Farm in River Falls. Beginning in 2012, Greg and Irma Zwald have created an interactive agricultural tourism setting for visitors to pick

organic berries, apples and vegetables, and offer an event barn.

In addition to learning about modern farming practices, the farm tour hosts also discussed agricultural issues and areas of concern relating to how they manage their farms, small businesses and as rural residents.



Tom Zwald, Annette Schalla and Bob Zwald hosted a group of elected officials and candidates at their family's dairy farm as part of a St. Croix County Policymaker Farm Tour coordinated by the St. Croix County Farm Bureau.