



Pierce | St. Croix County Farm Bureaus

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For information about our farm safety campaign, contact your local Rural Mutual agent.

Rural Mutual Agents in Pierce & St. Croix County:

Pam Singerhouse (715) 796-2207
Leah Close, Steve Jenkins (715) 425-8121
Nick Jenkins, Tom Jenkins (715) 796-2207
Ken Truax - District Manager
(715) 514-4477

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

You're Invited to the Pierce County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting

Date: Wednesday, September 9
Time: 7:30 p.m., meeting followed by meal
Location: Martell Community Center, 17490 Southwest 14th Street, Martell
Cost: Free



Join Pierce County Farm Bureau as they celebrate the past year's accomplishments and vote on resolutions to be presented at the WFBF Annual Meeting in December.

Mark your calendars and please plan on attending and let your voice be heard!

Please RSVP by **September 2** to Dean Bergseng at 715.425.6404.

You're Invited to the St. Croix County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting

Date: Thursday, September 24
Time: 7:30 p.m., meal followed by the meeting
Location: Baldwin Legion, 410 Maple Street, Baldwin
Cost: Free



Join St. Croix County Farm Bureau as they celebrate the past year's accomplishments and vote on resolutions to be presented at the WFBF Annual Meeting in December.

Mark your calendars and please plan on attending and let your voice be heard!

Please RSVP by **September 17** to Katie Mattison at 715.418.0975.

Dial 8-1-1 Before You Dig

Want to avoid spending a day in the dark? Or being without heat or air conditioning in your home? What about not being able to connect to the Internet, email or social media?



**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**

Protect yourself, your family and community and make sure to spread the word about 8-1-1.

Welcome New Pierce Members!

Tom Davis, Ron Jensen, Fred Roethlisberger*, Charles Saufl and Lawrence Thomas.

*Denotes voting membership

Welcome to Farm Bureau

Dairy Day in the Park is Successful



Mikayla Doornink, St. Croix County Farm Bureau YFA chair, handed ice cream cones to attendees.

This year Baldwin celebrated June Dairy Month with their first annual Dairy Day in the Park held on June 27.

The event was held in Bailey Park and featured free dairy food samples and a free hot dog lunch, a petting zoo, farmers' market, cow milking contest and a kiddie pedal pull sponsored by St. Croix County Farm Bureau.

Welcome New St. Croix Members

Brandon Diener, Kirk Hexum, A. Eugene Hexum and Corey Sell.

Welcome to Farm Bureau



COUNTYnews

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

Farmer Frolic 5K Run/Walk

Join District 9 Young Farmer and Agriculturist members on Saturday, September 12, at the first annual Farmer Frolic 5K Run/Walk.

The Farmer Frolic 5K is a family-friendly run/walk where runners and walkers are invited to enjoy a fun day on the farm!



Participants will follow a route into the beautiful countryside of the Chippewa Valley, while learning more about local food, Chippewa Valley agriculture and their family's health.

After the run/walk, attend Chippewa Valley Farm City Day, a free one-day event for the family. There will be fun, interactive booths, walking tours or ride on a tractor-driven wagon around a working dairy farm, sample local dairy products and the kids can participate in a kiddie tractor pull.

For more information, visit farmerfrolic5k.shutterstock.com or like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/farmerfrolic5k.

Another St. Croix County Fair in the Books

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.



Thank you to the many volunteers who helped make this another successful year, specifically Melanie Peterson and Jenny Mueller who always do an outstanding job of organizing this event.



Many fair goers visited the St. Croix County Farm Bureau food stand.

YFA Members Gather for BBQ

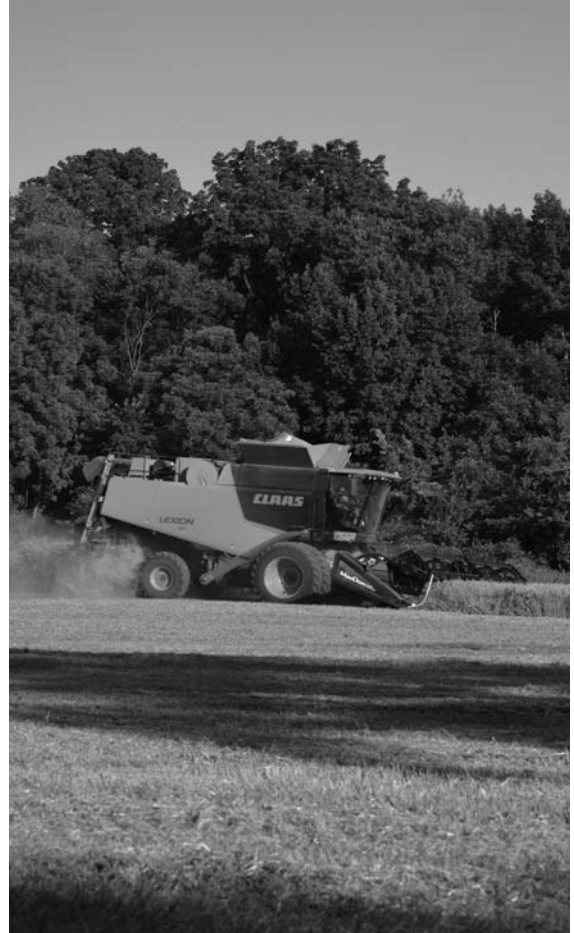
YFA members from around District 9 gathered on August 1 at Pierce County Farm Bureau YFA chair Peter Kimball's farm.

Attendees enjoyed good food and networking with other YFA members from the area throughout the evening.

For more information about YFA events in District 9, please contact Cindy Bourget at 715.505.7676.



YFA members enjoyed good weather, good food and good conversation at the District 9 YFA BBQ.



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



Caleigha Scovill and her grandpa, Gary Peterson, worked together at the window serving food.



Randy Roquette fried up the popular Ellsworth cheese curds at the food stand.

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
 YFA Chair, Peter Kimball 715.307.3726
 Women's Chair, Monica Krings 715.495.6286

Director, Mary Brand 715.307.0903
 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 Women's Chair, Amber Cordes 715.357.3444
 District 9 Coordinator, Katie Mattison 866.355.7349
 RMIC District Manager, Ken Truax 715.514.4477

Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom Offers Teacher Mini-Grants



Wisconsin Farm Bureau's Ag in the Classroom program is offering grants up to \$100 to pre-school through high school teachers, in a public or private school system, to fund projects that promote agricultural literacy in the classroom.

Grants can be used for innovative lessons, activities, resources, presentations, school fairs and other creative ideas. Projects should focus on integrating agriculture in a variety of curriculum areas.

A selection committee will review all funding requests that are properly completed and postmarked by **October 15**. Applications can be downloaded from www.wisagclassroom.org under the quick links section. Four signed copies of the application must be submitted.

Items considered when evaluating the applications include quality and uniqueness of the agricultural lesson, activity or project, integration of agriculture into a variety of curriculum areas, alignment with educational standards, assessment methods used to evaluate student's knowledge and quality of application.

The proposed project must be targeted to grades pre-K through 12 and should enhance student knowledge of the contribution made by agriculture.

Projects that use funds toward an ongoing, sustainable education effort will receive preference over those that involve a one-time program.

Proposed projects or events designed to reach large groups of students will be given preference, as will those that involve innovative approaches to promoting agricultural literacy.

Beef Promotion Event Held at Nilssen's



Mary Brand and Monica Krings handed out samples of beef during July Beef Month event at Nilssen's in Ellsworth.

were given to the visitors.

Thank you to Monica and Mary and also Nilssen's for making this promotion possible!

Here are more reasons from the Wisconsin Beef Council to fuel up with lean beef.

- Beef is an excellent source of 10 essential nutrients, including protein, zinc, vitamin B12, vitamin B6 and niacin.
- The Beef in an Optimal Lean Diet (BOLD) study, completed by Pennsylvania State University researchers, indicates that eating lean beef as part of an overall heart-healthy diet can help reduce levels of LDL cholesterol by 10 percent. The BOLD diet was as effective in doing so as the most recommended heart-healthy diet, which emphasizes plant and other proteins and limits lean beef.
- Research shows that eating lean beef can help lower cholesterol levels as part of a heart-healthy diet and lifestyle.
- 15 of the 20 most popular beef cuts sold at retail are lean, including you're favorite cuts like t-bone, tenderloin, top sirloin and more
- There are 29 cuts of beef that meet the government requirements for lean, including sirloin steak, t-bone steak, tenderloin steak, top round roast and 95 percent lean ground beef.
- Lean beef can add savory flavor to summer salads you create with fresh, locally available fruits and vegetables. For delicious recipes and tips on how to fuel up with lean beef, visit www.beeftips.com.
- The production of cattle for beef supports 14,000 jobs in Wisconsin, \$631 million in total income and \$1.86 billion in industrial revenues.



Pierce County Dairy Breakfast Serves 1,200

The 2015 Pierce County Dairy Breakfast was held on June 20 at Peterson Family Dairy in River Falls. Despite a rain filled morning, more than 1,200 people showed up for the breakfast.

Attendees enjoyed a breakfast featuring all-you-can-eat Dad's Belgian waffles with syrup, sausage, deep fried cheese curds and Flat Pennies ice cream.

A highlight of the breakfast was the educational kid's activities related to the



A highlight of the day was the kids' activities sponsored by Pierce County Farm Bureau, Pierce County Dairy Promotion Committee and Wisconsin Milk Marketing board. Kids could milk a cow, make fireworks with food coloring and milk and guess the amount of sugar in their favorite drinks with Rethink your Drink.

dairy industry with face painting for all ages. Visitors took educational tram tour through the two freestall sand bedded barns, illustrating farming practices focusing on cow care and comfort, viewed the milking parlor and saw an antique tractor display.

Thank you to the Pierce County Dairy Promotion Committee, Pierce County Farm Bureau and Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board for sponsoring this event.



A big hit with the smaller children was the corn box.

Dairy Promotion Event Held during River Falls Days Parade

Pierce County Farm Bureau continued the tradition of handing out milk and cheese curds at the 2015 River Falls Day Parade on July 10. With the help of the Town and Country 4-H Club, 4,800 cartons of milk and 80 pounds of cheese curds were distributed to parade goers to promote Wisconsin dairy.

Join us for the Prescott Daze parade at 2 p.m. on Sunday, September 13, when St. Croix Stars 4-H Club will hand out 2,500 cartons of chocolate milk and 50 pounds of cheese curds.

Thank you to Dean Bergseng for organizing the event and to Pierce and St. Croix County Farm Bureaus, Pierce County Dairy Promotion, Hastings Coop Creamery, Ellsworth Coop Creamery, Dairy Farmers of America, First National Bank of River Falls-Prescott, River Falls Mutual Insurance, Ptacek's, IGA and Cernohous Chevrolet for their donations to make these events possible. Also, thank you to Roger and Bev Peterson for driving the Hastings Creamery truck in the River Falls Parade and Jim Bole who will drive the truck in the Prescott Parade.



4-H members from the Town and Country 4-H Club led by April Daniels passed out milk and cheese curds during the River Falls Days Parade.

**2015 PIERCE & PEPIN COUNTIES
FALL CLEAN SWEEP / PHARMACEUTICAL EVENT**



**Agriculture & Household
Hazardous Waste & Pharmaceutical
Collection Event**

**2015 Fall Event
Saturday, September 19th
8:00am - 12 noon**



Recycling Center - 707 N. Maple St./Hwy 65, Ellsworth
 • 715/273-3092 • www.co.pierce.wi.us
 • recycle@co.pierce.wi.us

USDA Opens Enrollment Period for Agriculture Risk Coverage and Price Loss Coverage Programs

Submitted by **Bob Forrest**, Pierce and St. Croix County Farm Service Agency, County Executive Director



U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced that eligible producers may now formally enroll in the agriculture risk coverage (ARC) and price loss coverage (PLC) programs for 2014 and 2015.

Many farmers do not realize that this past spring they only determined bases and yields and selected a program, ARC or PLC.

Starting this year through 2018, farmers that elected into a program now have to sign contracts annually at their local Farm Services Agency (FSA) office, as was done with the prior DCP program.

The enrollment period started June 17 and will end September 30 for the 2014 and 2015 crop years.

The purpose of the annual enrollment is to determine who has a share in the crop, which will determine who will receive the farm's ARC-PLC payment for that respective crop year.

During the coming weeks, farmers will be contacted by staff from the Pierce County FSA office to complete the enrollment process.

Keep in mind, FSA farms with 10 crop base acres or less are not eligible to receive ARC/PLC payments, unless the farmer completes form FSA-860 and qualifies as socially disadvantaged (race, ethnicity, gender) or limited resource.

For more information, please contact the office at 715.273.5522.

To learn more about limited resource eligibility, visit www.lrftool.sc.egov.usda.gov.

Margin Protection Program Enrollment Underway

As of July 1, dairy farmers could enroll in the Margin Protection Program for 2016 coverage.

The voluntary program provides financial assistance to participating dairy farms when the margin – the difference between the price of milk and feed costs



FARM SERVICE AGENCY

– falls below the coverage level selected by the farmer.

Enrollment started on July 1 and ends on September 30 for coverage in 2016. Participating farmers will remain in the program through 2018 and pay a \$100 administrative fee each year.

If you signed up for the Margin Protection Program for 2015, you are required to enroll for the entire farm bill until 2018 and pay at least the \$100 administrative fee.

You are not required to buy-up or retain the same coverage for 2016 as you enrolled in for 2015.

Whatever your decision, you must apply at the Pierce County FSA office by September 30.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call 715.273.5522.

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, Mikayla Doornink 715.338.5666

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, Gary Peterson 715.665.2142
 Director, Greg Zwald 715.222.4349
 St. Croix County Farm Bureau 888.830.2574

We are here for you. Call with questions or if you are interested in getting more involved in Farm Bureau!

Welcome to the Farm Bureau Family

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Spouse's Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Would you like to receive Ag Newswire, the weekly email newsletter from WFBF? Yes

Would you like a Rural Mutual Insurance agent to contact you? Yes

Membership Type: Associate Voting

County: _____ Township: _____

Amount Paid: _____ Date: _____
 Make checks payable to Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

Membership Worker: _____

1.2015

For office use only.

Member # _____ County # _____ V/A _____



A Voice for Farmers. A Vision for Agriculture.®

Do You Know Someone Who Should Be a Farm Bureau Member?

To the right is a membership application for the Wisconsin Farm Bureau. The dues in Pierce and St. Croix counties are \$50. Below are a couple of hints for you as you go through the membership application.



conducted and that an associate member is other persons, partnerships, unincorporated associations and corporations interested in the philosophy and objectives of this association can be a member, but without the right to vote or serve as a director. Typically associate members are those without direct ties to agriculture, but carry a Rural Mutual Insurance Policy.

- 1. Can my spouse and I share a membership?** Yes! Each membership is one vote for the your county Farm Bureau. If you and your spouse have a shared opinion on county happenings, then you can share a membership. If you want two votes, purchase two memberships.
- 2. Why do you need my date of birth?** Your birthday is used for the accidental death benefit that comes with your county Farm Bureau membership. It also helps us target our Young Farmer and Agriculturist members so that we can be sure to include them in activities that are specific to them. We won't sell the list to anyone, it just helps us.
- 3. What is the Ag Newswire?** The *Ag Newswire* is produced by Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation each Friday and it is a summary of agriculture news for the past week.
- 4. How do I know what my membership type is?** Both Pierce and St. Croix Farm Bureau have established that a voting member is someone engaged in agricultural purposes, actively engaged in the business of producing agricultural products, or owners of property where such business is

- 5. Who is the membership worker?** At Farm Bureau, we like to reward those who help us grow our membership. So if you are giving this membership newsletter to someone in hopes that they will join, please write your name in the membership worker blank. We will send you \$20 for each new member who you sign up! It's a great way to be rewarded for taking time out to make the visits and help us grow our membership.
- 6. Where do I mail my application?** You can mail it to WFBF, P.O. Box 5550, Madison, WI 53705 or you can drop it off at a board member's home.
- 7. When should I send in my payment, when is it due?** Your membership starts on the day we receive your membership application and that will remain your renewal date. So, if you know that your cash is a tight in the spring, but you can manage the renewal in June, send it in June. We are glad to have your membership anytime.