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Rural Mutual
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Brewing Farm Safety Traditions
 FARM SAFETY

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

Rural Mutual Agents in Adams County:

Jim Wehinger (715) 254-9500

David Meihak - District Manager

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

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.



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.

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

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

A selection committee will review all funding requests that are properly completed and postmarked by the **October 15** deadline.

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

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

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.

Bays Elected State FFA Officer



Congratulations to Adams County YFA member Brenna Bays for being elected as the Section 6 State FFA Officer at the organization's convention held in Madison.

Bays graduated in 2015 from Adams-Friendship High School and will spend the year working with FFA members throughout the state.

Bays is the daughter of Adams County Farm Bureau board of director Jim Bays II. She grew up on a dairy farm near Adams and was an active member of the Adams-Friendship FFA.

Check out her Facebook page "Wisconsin FFA, Section 6" to keep up to date on everything Brenna is doing.

Congratulations Brenna!

Plan to Attend the Adams County Fair!

Here is just one more reminder that the fair dates have changed this year. The Adams County Fair is **July 22-26**. This is a couple of weeks earlier than it has been in the past.

We want to keep our hours as usual, which is from 1 to 10 p.m. daily. Shifts are usually two or three hours long.

We intend to have our ice cream booth open as usual and will be located just south of the barns and to the east of the exhibit building.

If we do not have enough help, we will close our building. We really do not want to do this, but this was a suggestion by a fair board member.

Because the dates have changed, we need help scooping ice-cream, making root beer floats and selling water.

If you are unable to scoop, you can collect money and make change. Any help will be appreciated.

If you are interested in helping, please contact Kay at 608.572.1429 or kolsonmartz@gmail.com. Thank you!





COUNTYnews

ADAMS COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION

Adams County Farm Bureau Ag in the Classroom Finishes Busy School Year

By Kay Olson-Martz

Our school year has come to an end and we had a great year.

We completed interesting projects with the students and worked on the essay contest. This year the essay question was "Why are bees important to Wisconsin agriculture?"

We had a total of 111 essays from the fourth and fifth grade students from Roche-A-Cri Grade School, Adams-Friendship Elementary and Grand Marsh Grade School.

The essays were judged and awarded first, second and third place winners in each grade and school and had five honorable mention awards. Each student also received certificates of participation and Bayer donated cute fuzzy bees for each student. Certificates were awarded and ice cream bars were enjoyed by all students for their 100 percent involvement.

Thank you to Barb Morgan and Kris Bougie for helping in the classroom with our projects each month and thank you to Doreen Olson for her help behind the scenes getting things ready for our

monthly sessions. We could not have completed a successful year without your help.

We will start next year with a dairy good essay topic! That is a hint about next year's topic. We are looking forward to the 2015-2016 school year.

Roche-a-Cri Elementary, fourth grade winners: first, Brookelin Zarling; second, Trevor Czap; third, Makenna Kniprath; fifth grade winners: first, Emily Schultz; second, Caly Kobs; third, Michael Riedel.

Adams Elementary, fifth grade winners: first, Holly Engel; second, Abe Cook; third, Kera Minigh; honorable mentions, Marlend Manske, Jada Lynch, Kevin Cornelius, Tianna Peterson and Alex Ibarra.

Grand Marsh Elementary School, fourth grade winners: first, Harley Parr; second, Jaden Peters; third, Angelina Baggs; fifth grade winners: first, Dalton Kogle; second, Gabriel McCollum; third, Daleria Nieves.



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District Director Report



Why are you a member of Farm Bureau? Farm Bureau means many things to different people.

This is important not only for your own success but in how you communicate with volunteer leaders and new members. Sustainability is key to any organization. Finding and keeping strategic people is an intricate part of the success of Farm Bureau.

Many people join because of our relationship with Rural Mutual Insurance or the member benefits Farm Bureau offers. But others join and find success in the Young Farmer and Agriculturist program and the leadership programs Farm Bureau offers.

If you talk to members, they express the need for socialization. Many find meeting and networking with other like-minded people is important to their own leadership successes. Many

members also understand the value of Farm Bureau being a collective voice for the members.

As you know Wisconsin's largest ag organization means different things to everyone. As we work with other volunteers or approach new members it is important to realize what drives them. We also need to communicate why we are members in order to build relationships and make county Farm Bureaus thrive.

Membership is key to a growing organization. I want to thank everyone who has asked someone to join Farm Bureau. It helps in your leadership and in the continual transition of a prosperous Farm Bureau. Keep up the good work!

Have a blessed and safe growing season!

Kevin Krentz
WFBF District 5 Board Director

Meet Your District YFA Reps: Amanda and Josh Knoch



would be elected to the board that first night.

Why did you decide to apply to be the District 5 YFA representatives?

In June of 2014, Josh and I attended the Washington, D.C., fly-in and we saw a glimpse of the importance of Farm Bureau on the national level. This was a great experience for us as it opened our eyes to what we can do on a local and state level to help our nation level Farm Bureau succeed. This made me want to become more involved in Farm Bureau at the state level to bring the local, state and national levels closer.

Tell us about yourself including background, jobs, where you live, family and hobbies.

My name is Amanda Knoch and my husband's is Josh. We live just north of Westfield. I'm a farm insurance underwriter and my husband Josh works on our family's farm in northern Marquette County. We crop 1,300 acres and milk 300 cows. Josh and I have been married for two years and had a little farmer boy in June. Josh also is an emergency medical technician and fireman. During the summer we enjoy gardening and canning.

How long have you been a Farm Bureau member?

Officially I have been a member of Farm Bureau for six years; however, unofficially I have been in Farm Bureau since birth because my parents were members and we were at the Farm Bureau events throughout the county.

Why did you first join Farm Bureau?

I first joined Farm Bureau because my brother was the county president and I wanted to attend a meeting to see what it was like on the adult level instead of just being the helper for the adult members. Little did I know that I

What is one of your goals as the District 5 YFA Representatives?

My goal as district representative is to work with counties to become active participants in the state competitions and to work to bring attention to the District 5 YFA program.

What advice do you have for other YFA members who want to be more involved in Farm Bureau?

My advice for anyone interested in getting more involved is to contact your county YFA chair to learn about events, activities and opportunities that are hosted in your district or county. This will help you learn what you enjoy about Farm Bureau the most and continue to help build and improve the event, activity or opportunity.

Anything else you want readers to know?

I look forward to working with members and I'm excited to see all of the counties and their YFA programs flourish during the coming years. If you have questions or concerns do not hesitate to call or send me an email. I look forward to working with a great district!

Save the Date – County Annual Meeting

The Adams County Farm Bureau annual meeting will be held **August 27** at the Grand Marsh community building.

Please note we are holding our annual meeting earlier this year and it is on a Thursday night. Also we are having a different type of meal.

Mark your calendar, plan to attend and make sure to watch your mail for the postcard with information on the county annual meeting.

SAVE the **DATE**

District 5 Discussion Meet Scheduled for August 24

The District 5 Discussion Meet will be held at **7:30 p.m.** on **Tuesday, August 24**, at the Marquette County UW-Extension Building in Montello. The cost for the meal is **\$12**.

For more information, please contact District YFA Representative Amanda Knoch at 608.369.1091.

Discussion Meet Questions for 2015

1. How should Farm Bureau protect and encourage producers' ability to use new technology? How can Farm Bureau work with government and the public to ensure public acceptance while encouraging innovation?
2. Should we draft policy to protect livestock producers from false accusations regarding animal welfare? What could it look like?
3. How do we balance agriculture's water needs with maintaining vibrant communities? How do historical water rights influence this discussion?

4. How do we get the public to support right-to-farm laws? Should these laws be determined on the state or the federal level?

5. How can we influence state and local policy that more effectively balances the social and economic interests of farmers and ranchers versus burdensome federal regulation?

The District 5 Discussion Meet question will be #5.



YFA Canoeing Event Planned!

Attention YFA members!

The Adams County YFA committee is working with several neighboring counties to organize a summer picnic and canoeing event.

When: Sunday, August 23

Time: Noon picnic lunch with canoeing to follow

Where: Mecan River Outfitters, Highway 23, located between Princeton and Montello

Plan to attend. This will be a great opportunity to learn more about opportunities in Farm Bureau, network with other YFA members and have some summer fun!

For more information, please contact District Coordinator Becky Hibicki at 920.517.2445.



There are Benefits to Your Farm Bureau Membership:

Auto

- General Motors Discount

Communication

- AgriVisor
- The Country Today

Financial

- AgriPlan Medical Reimbursement Program
- Farm Bureau Bank

Health

- ScriptSave® Prescription Drug Savings Card
- Stroke Detection Plus

Insurance

- Rural Mutual Insurance Company
- Farm Bureau Financial Services

Protection

- \$500 Reward Protection Program

- Accidental Death Policy

Supplies and Products

- Case IH
- FS-Growmark Patronage

- Grainger

- Office Depot

- Polaris

Travel

- AAA
- AVIS Car Rental Discount Program

- Choice Hotels International, Inc.

- Wyndham Hotel Group

For complete details visit wfbf.com/benefits-membership.

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District 5 Coordinator, Becky Hibicki

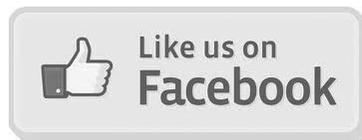
866.355.2029 bhicki@wfbf.com

RMIC District Manager, Dave Meihak

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Adams County Farm Bureau is on Facebook!

Make sure to "like" the Adams County Farm Bureau Facebook page to keep current on all of the county Farm Bureau events!



Farm Bureau Dues Explained

By Kay Olson-Martz

There has been much confusion about our dues.

Our annual dues are only \$50. I, along with our Rural Mutual Insurance agent, have received many calls about dues.



Leadership Institute program, Ag in the Classroom and other educational activities.

You do not have to pay the \$60 if you do not want to, you can send in the \$50.

If you do not want to be

On the billing statement it shows the amount due as \$60. If you look closely and read the small print, it says what the extra \$10 is for.

billed for the \$60 in the future, you can note that with your dues statement asking to be billed \$50 in the future.

The \$60 total includes a voluntary contribution of \$5 to the Volunteers for Ag, which is the political action committee of the Wisconsin Farm Bureau.

If you have insurance through Rural Mutual Insurance and your dues are withdrawn directly from your bank account, then you can call and request a \$10 refund.

The other \$5 voluntary contribution is for the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation, which supports the educational part of the organization, such as the

I hope that this explanation helps and prevents confusion in the future.

Upcoming Events

July

22-26

Adams County Fair, Stop at the Farm Bureau ice cream booth!

August

23

YFA Canoeing, Mekan River

24

District 5 Discussion Meet, Montello

27

Adams County Annual Meeting, Grand Marsh

Farmland DVD for \$10!

Academy Award®-winning filmmaker James Moll's feature-length documentary, FARMLAND, is available on DVD at Walmart and Walmart.com.



This film is a great tool for educating others about agriculture.

For more information, visit www.FARMLANDfilm.com or Facebook by searching Farmland.

County President's Message



As I write this message, I am reminded of our youth who have just graduated from kindergarten, eighth grade, high school and college.

As I watch them graduate from high school and college, I think back to the days when they graduated from kindergarten and eighth grade, and it certainly doesn't seem like that many years ago.

Many of these youth are going into an agricultural field of study and I believe that it is up to us to encourage and support them. It is equally important to encourage them no matter what direction or job field they decide to enter.

The Adams County Farm Bureau members wish all of our graduates the very best as they embark on the new chapter in their book of life.

Congratulations to each of you. Make the best of this new chapter and set your goals and most of all, enjoy!

Kay Olson-Martz

Adams County Farm Bureau President

Future Commodity Sales Cancelled

This is to inform everyone that we will not be having any future commodity sales.

There are a lot of factors that have been looked at before cancelling these sales and the main reason is that these sales are very time consuming. It takes many hours during a two-month period and it also takes coordination between those that purchase our commodities, the trucker and the company supplying the products.

This has not been working smoothly with past sales and has become frustrating.

Thank you to those that have purchased from our sales in the past.

Farm Bureau Offers Noah's Ark Discount Tickets

Located on 70 acres in Wisconsin Dells, the Waterpark Capital of the World, Noah's Ark is recognized as America's Largest Waterpark and one of the best places to visit in Wisconsin Dells.

From Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day, Noah's Ark is open for a summer of fun.

More than \$12 off the price of tickets with the Farm Bureau discount using the promo code wfbf15.



Make your plans to visit and purchase your discounted tickets at www.noah-sarkwaterpark.com/wfbf.