

The Plow

ANNUAL CAR SEAT CLINIC

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Mark Your Calendar:

- Discussion Meet Entry Deadline— November 17, 2006
- District 3 Fall Meeting— November 21, 2006 @ White County
- State Convention—December 8 & 9, 2006 @ Indianapolis Convention Center
- AFBF Convention—January 7-10, 2007 in Salt Lake City, UT
- State Young Farmer Convention—January 26-28, 2007 in Indianapolis, IN
- Spring Conference—March 9 & 10, 2007 @ Indianapolis
- Carroll County Annual Meeting— March 13th, 2007

Carroll County Farm Bureau in cooperation with Carroll/White County SAFE KIDS hosted the second annual Car Seat Clinic at the Flora Community Park on August 5th.

Last year we checked 52 seats, this year we were able to check 64. 32 of them were replaced and only 7 were installed without any problems or misuse. Car seats and safety belts are designed to spread the force of a crash over the strongest parts of the body and to keep drivers and passengers inside the vehicle. Every child left the park in the correct size and positioned car seat and it was installed correctly in the vehicle.

Carroll County Farm Bureau Incorporated donated \$1500 to SAFE KIDS for the purchase of new replacement car seats for the event. All unused seats were given to the SAFEKIDS program to aid others in our com-

munity with new car seats.

Car seats should be replaced if they are older than 6 years. Check the manufacturer's tag for date of production. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration website (www.nhtsa.dot.gov) has a complete listing of recalled seats listed by model. Also if the seat was bought at a garage sale, if it is damaged in any way, or you don't know the history of it, replace it. Furthermore, if a seat has been in a crash of any kind, whether the child was in the seat at the time of the accident or not it should be replaced.

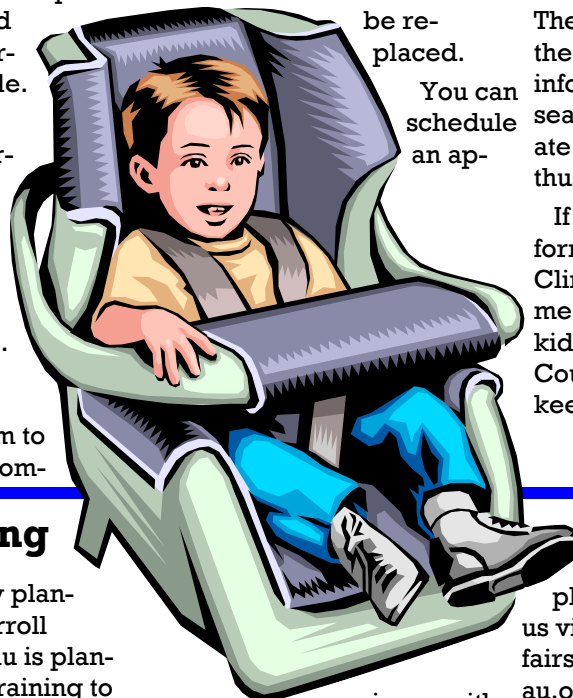
You can schedule an ap-

pointment with Sharon Hartwell at White County Memorial Hospital to have your seat inspected year round. Please call 574-583-7111 to make an appointment.

The car seat inspectors are trained and certified with 32 hours of training each. Checking seats for us were officers from the Carroll and White County Sheriff's Departments, Monon Police Department, and SAFE KIDS of Carroll & White Counties. Volunteers from the Flora Fire Department, Carroll County EMT's, Healthy Families of Carroll County and The Town of Flora assisted the inspectors in recording information and fitting the seats. We greatly appreciate their expertise and enthusiasm for child safety.

If you would like more information on the Car Seat Clinic please feel free to call me at 574-686-2330. Our kids are the future of this County and Country, help keep them safe.

Rusty Ashby



CPR Training

It is still in the early planning stages but Carroll County Farm Bureau is planning to offer CPR Training to all of its members. The board was touched by Craig and Kim Frey's personal ex-

perience with the effective use of CPR on their son, Chase. If you are interested in participating in

this program or would like more information please feel free to contact us via the website localaffairs@carrollcountyfarmbureau.org or call one of the insurance offices.

SAFETY IS AN ATTITUDE!

Greetings Carroll County Farm Bureau Members:

On Saturday, August 26th, Ty Brown, Mark Justice and I had the honor of representing you, the members, at the summer delegate session. This meeting is the policy setting summit. This means Farm Bureau delegates take a stance on an issue then the newly adopted issues are printed in a policy book and given to each legislator. This way the legislator knows how we stand on an issue. Here are three of the issues we spent the most time discussing.

1) *Corn Check Off* policy passed and now reads: Indiana Farm Bureau supports a state corn check off with a re-fund provision and a 5 year review. Funds from the check off should be used for research, product development, promotion, & education

2) *State Funded Textbooks*. When you first read this you would wonder why FB would support this because most FB members pay a large amount of property taxes which in turn support schools. If we are paying the taxes for the schools, parents could at least pay for textbooks. But in reality statewide, only 60%

pay for books and 40% get reduced or free books, which end up being paid out of our property tax payments. So if you pay for your textbooks, you get a double whammy. Because you are paying for part of the 40% that can't pay or get reduce fees with your property tax payment and paying for your own books. FB new policy reads: We support state funded textbooks.

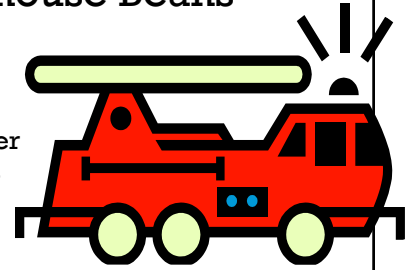
3) *Loan Deficiency Payments* or LDP. This resolution recommended LDP be based on actual production history versus actual yield. On a drought year you would get paid more if there was an LDP, but in a productive year you would get paid less if there was an LDP. This is also a disadvantage to younger farmers and expanding farmers. This resolution failed by 1 vote. As a result our policy still reads: LDP should be based on actual yield.

In closing let me know what you think of these policies or if you have any policy recommendations for 2007.

Respectfully, President Mike Beale

Firehouse Beans

½ lb
browned
hamburger
¼ tsp dry
mustard
½ lb
browned bacon (cut up)**



1 can red kidney beans
1 can baby lima beans
1 can pork and beans
¾ c brown sugar
½ c onion – chopped
½ c ketchup
2 Tbsp vinegar

** I have used the real bacon bits for salads that you can buy at the store and that works just as well.

You can bake at 350° F for 40 min or you can put all the ingredients together in a crock pot.

These are great tasting and easy to make beans! Hope you Enjoy!

From the kitchen of Sacha Brown



FARMING IN THE CLASSROOM

Can you believe that it is time for children to be back in school? What a great opportunity to talk about Farming in the Classroom and what it can do for students. The Indiana Farm Bureau Women's Division organizes this program and training needed for the volunteers around the state. This program allows volunteers to go into classrooms and present a topic that is age appropriate for the students to learn about agriculture. The best part of this program is that it is free to the teachers and school corporations.

Here is how it works! The Women's Division sends letters to the schools early in the school year informing them of the Farming the Classroom program. If a teacher is interested all they have to do is place the request to the state office and then the information is forwarded to the correct Farming the Classroom volunteer. Then, the volunteer contacts the teacher to make arrange-

ments with dates, times, and what topic will be discussed. The length of the program is between 15 and 30 minutes. The last task for the teacher is to complete a simple evaluation form on the presenter and send to Indiana Farm Bureau Office.

This is a wonderful program to participate in which allows agriculture to be introduced in the classrooms around the state. There are many different topics to teach about anywhere from careers in agriculture to farm products in pizza and many others in between. Farm Bureau has done a great job with getting the volunteers and the correct information they need to teach in the classroom. I have presented two programs since I have volunteered to be part of this great program. One program that I taught was for a classroom at Camden Elementary and it was

the pizza program. It was wonderful to see children's faces light up when they realized that a pizza actually starts from a farm before it ends up on their plates. The other was at Hillcrest Elementary, the program I did there was how farming related to life. I used toy farm equipment to help explain what farmers use them for on a real farm. It was great being able to teach about farming to the children and answer all their interesting questions.

If you are a teacher please put in a request for a Farming the Classroom Volunteer to present to your class. Even if your not a teacher you can still help by knowing a teacher, or would like for your child's teacher to squeeze in a presentation please talk to them and tell them about this great program.

Kathy Justice



IF YOU BUILD IT...

Of course I'm not talking about mowing down corn to build a baseball diamond, instead I am referring to the building of ethanol plants. The ethanol industry has become a major movement in the mainstream media, however not everyone who is talking about ethanol is saying positive things. Have you heard of the food vs. fuel debate where people are concerned about the

population of third world countries going hungry just so we can fuel our vehicles? Can farmers produce enough corn to feed people and fuel our vehicles? These are questions that

notoriously negative media seem to push their "world is always coming to an end" agenda's.

Mon-santo has refuted the concerns of nay sayers by saying that in a few years from now the national corn yield average will increase dramatically or at least increase at an increasing rate. I was doubtful, at first, since I did not understand how corn genetics has changed in the last few years. Improvements in corn genetics have gotten a lot of credit in the recent yield improvements but what exactly does genetics encompass.

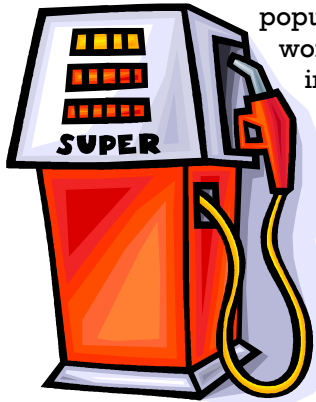


Well, I can't say for sure but the technology that is used to create new hybrids has increased in efficiency. This translates into faster development of new hybrids. I recently attended a Pioneer technology field day where we were taught how through

the use of gene marking and gene mapping geneticists can now pick out certain traits that they wish to keep and remove unwanted traits. The other efficiency that was talked about that day was the process where corn breeders can make inbred lines in just two generations instead of the seven growing seasons that it used to take. These two generation inbred are called Double Haploids.

With increased efficiencies in inbreeding as well as using gene mapping and gene marking, I believe that growing corn for fuel and food is not only possible but as with every new challenge, the American Farmer will find ways to do just about anything.

Mark Justice



LUGAR ESSAY: "Feeding Our Bodies, Fueling The Future"

Hoosier Farmers have always had the important job of feeding people. Now, we are turning to the farmer in our pursuit of energy independence. Consider the role Indiana farmers will play in fueling both our bodies and the future.

Eighth Graders are invited to write a 300 word maximum essay on the theme "Feeding Our Bodies, Fueling The Future". It is due to Janice Frey, Carroll County Woman's Leader by October 17th, 2006. Her address is 6370 W 650 S, Rossville, IN 46065.

Essays will be judged on the correct use of grammar and punctuation, spelling, understanding of the topic, neatness and overall appearance of the essay, and originality and creativity. They can be handwritten or typed. Please include a cover page listing the name, sex, school, county, home address, and phone number. Also list parents names and supervising teacher. Each additional page should have the name of the student and page number in the top right corner. For a complete listing of criteria please log on to the state website at www.infarmbureau.org

There will be prizes awarded at the local, district and state levels. Pass this information on to all 8th graders & Middle-school teachers.

A Hundred Years From Now
...it will not matter what my
bank account was,
the sort of house I lived in,
or the kind of car I drove...
...but the world may be different
because I was important in the life of a

Child

More on Ethanol and Oil Prices

In the last newsletter I addressed the correlation between oil prices and the potential for farmers to profit from high oil prices. In this issue I would like to expand some on that thought process. It seems that I continue to hear more and more about how the ethanol industry is an industry like the "dot.coms" and that it is a bubble that is about to burst in a like manner. Ethanol profitability is astounding, but that does not mean it has become a bubble. To this day the demise of the ethanol industry was been widely publicized. Over the past several years as farmers were asked to participate in equity drives the reasons were piled on as to why ethanol would not work. We heard how ethanol would not work in all engines, that the government would not extend tax credits, and the most common one that I still hear today is that big oil would drop the price of gas to make ethanol uncompetitive and then steal all of the ethanol plants. Remember one year ago I talked about "scheme and device," well this is a perfect example. Oil companies do not set their prices the market does. The market is not always based on

fundamentals, but that is another story. Now I must admit that investing in ethanol "start-up" plants was only a sure thing while using 20-20 hindsight. No one could have predicted corn prices near records lows and gasoline prices at record highs. These two opposite extremes make the breakeven on an ethanol plant around \$7.00 plus per bushel. Ethanol profitability is astounding, but that does not mean that it is a bubble that it about to burst. In my opinion there are still too many people speaking negatively about ethanol for it to be a bubble. When almost all of the negative comments go away and all of the critics get on board -- well then it is time to watch out. When everyone believes in something, then who is left to move

the industry forward? It is at that point it will take a few steps backwards and level off, or burst depending on the factors at play.

The crude oil market is a

market that concerns me somewhat. It seems that most people have come to accept that fact that crude oil is going to remain over \$70.00 per barrel. This is a market that is driven by the funds desire to make money and they will push the market as far as possible before getting out. There is certainly a large amount of risk premium built into the market. Some will argue it is as much as \$30.00 per barrel, but there is certainly a lot of instability around the world right now. What I am worried about is buy the rumor, sell the fact mentality. We see this all too often in the grain markets. You can get some bullish news that one would think would make the markets rally, but instead they sell off because the funds decide to take profits on bullish news. What does make me feel better about the crude market staying "high" is that we did not just recently hit \$70.00. It has stayed above that level now for some time, which is building some stability into the market, but one never knows when the funds may become spooked and the nay sayers on ethanol will think they were right. Either way, we are writing a new chapter of history into the history book, and this is one chapter that I am glad to be a part of!

Ty Brown



Random Thoughts and Questions:

- Does anyone have someone special that they would like to see as our guest speaker at the next annual meeting on March 13, 2007?
- Does anyone have something they would like to request put on the website?
- What are your thoughts on the website?
- What are your overall thoughts on Carroll County Farm Bureau?
- Why are you a member? Is it just for insurance, or are there other reasons?
- Have you thought about becoming involved with Farm Bureau at the county, state, or national level?
- I would like to see everyone who is reading this go to at least one public meeting this year. Be it a Farm Bureau, school board, commissioners, or meeting of your choice just to let the board members know that someone is paying attention to what they are doing and saying.
- You can respond to these questions at localaffairs@carrollcountymfb.org or contact one of the offices in the county.

CONGRATULATIONS to the winners of the John Deer Bikes given away at the County 4-H fair. Cason Lambert (parents Dave & Stephanie) of Flora and Celcia Slavens of Idaville.

The **Marketing Meetings** are scheduled for September 12, October 17, November 14, & December 12. Contact Mark Justice if you are interested in attending 574-652-3451.

Girls Night Out will be September 23rd, contact Sacha Brown if you would like to leave the boys at home for the evening 765-379-9828!



INDIANA FARM BUREAU