

## Did you pay your Farm Bureau dues?

Farm Bureau dues were due Dec. 1, 2011. Late fees apply starting Jan. 1, 2012. If you have not paid your dues please do so immediately. To find out more about all the benefits of being a Farm Bureau member visit [www.mcfb.org](http://www.mcfb.org) or call (309) 663-6497. Thank you for your continued support!

## Farm Safety Breakfast Feb. 8

McLean County Farm Bureau invites local farmers to attend a Farm Safety Breakfast on Wed., Feb. 8 at the Lexington Community Center.

Breakfast will be served at 7:30 a.m. followed by a program featuring information and tips to help keep farmers and their families safe on the farm. Attendees will also have the opportunity to

register for door prizes.

The program and breakfast are free, but reservations are required. Please contact the McLean County Farm Bureau at (309) 663-6497 or [anna@mcfb.org](mailto:anna@mcfb.org) to register by Wed., Feb. 1.

The breakfast is sponsored by the McLean and Livingston County Farm Bureaus and Prairie Central Co-op.



McLean County Young Leaders Duane Gieseke (left) and Misty Lay wrap presents for the WJBC Brotherhood Tree. A group of 10 Young Leaders volunteered at the annual event on Dec. 15.

## MCFB Recognized at IAA Meeting

McLean County Farm Bureau received recognition for earning a County Award of Excellence from the American Farm Bureau Federation and for achieving membership quota at the 2011 IAA Annual Meeting held Dec. 3-6, 2011 in Chicago.

During the business meeting, representatives from County Farm Bureaus across the state discussed a wide range of issues and adopted policy resolutions. The priorities set by the delegate body will create the foundation for action on

legislative issues for the next year.

McLean County Farm Bureau Board Members Scott Hoeft, Fred Grieder, Carl Neubauer, Pat Bane, Paul Schuler, Marie Denzer, Kevin Poppe and J.C. Zimmerman participated in the meeting.

Committee members Matt Hughes, Connie Schneider, Tim Bittner, Bart Bittner, Enid Schlipf, David Mool, Jason Lay and Chris Mizell also attended the meeting.

For more information about IFB policy and legislative priorities for 2012 visit [www.ilfb.org](http://www.ilfb.org).

## Upcoming Events:

### January

Wed. 18 8:45 a.m. FFA Acquaintance Day  
Thurs. 19 5 p.m. MCFB Annual Meeting

### February

Wed. 8 7:30 a.m. Farm Safety Breakfast  
Sat. 18 TBA YL Basketball Night at ISU  
Thurs. 23 11:30 a.m. Prime Timers Meeting @ Denny's



Levi Zimmerman (right) shows a second grader at Children of Peace School in Chicago how to use the GPS simulator. The J.C. Zimmerman family of Saybrook visited the urban classroom they adopted through the Illinois Farm Bureau Adopt-A-Classroom program on Dec. 5, 2011.

## McLean County Farm Family Connects with Urban Students

Second grade students at Children of Peace School in Chicago are learning about farming and food production from McLean County farmer J.C. Zimmerman and his family.

On Dec. 5, the Zimmerman family - J.C, his wife Sara and their children Levi and Carley - visited the class and talked about living and working on a farm.

The students also had the chance to learn about how farmers use GPS technology on their tractors and combines with the McLean County Farm Bureau's GPS simulator.

For the past three years, the

Zimmermans have adopted the urban classroom through the Adopt-A-Classroom program coordinated by Illinois Farm Bureau. The program builds connections between farmers and urban students to help them learn more about agriculture.

Throughout the school year, the Zimmermans write letters to the classroom and the students respond. The family also tries to visit at least twice a year.

For more information about the Adopt-A-Classroom program contact the McLean County Farm Bureau at (309) 663-6497 or [anna@mcfb.org](mailto:anna@mcfb.org).

## Scholarship Applications Due Feb. 1, 2012

Applications are now available for the 2012-2013 McLean County Farm Bureau Foundation and 2012-2013 IAA Foundation scholarships. Applications must be postmarked by Feb. 1, 2012.

The McLean County Farm Bureau Foundation will award five \$1,000 scholarships based on leadership to students interested in pursuing an agricultural related career.

Two scholarships will be awarded to seniors in high school, one to an ISU student and two to students attending other colleges.

Applications are available at [www.mcfb.org/scholarships](http://www.mcfb.org/scholarships). Contact the Farm Bureau office at (309) 663-6497 with any questions.

The IAA Foundation offers more than 20 scholarships that

are available to McLean County students:

- **IAA General Scholarships:** three \$3,000 scholarships, two \$1,000 scholarships and one \$1,100 scholarship, ag-related major required
- **Illinois Soybean Association Crop Science Scholarships:** ten \$4,000 awards, must be a junior at ISU, U of I, SIU or WIU majoring in crop production or crop science discipline
- **William J. Kuhfuss Scholarship:** \$1,000, must be enrolled at a post-secondary school in Illinois, an agricultural background and/or ag-related major required
- **Heartland NAMA Steven A Hammerschmidt Memorial**

## MCFB Annual Business Meeting

The McLean County Farm Bureau Annual Business Meeting will be Thurs., Jan. 19 at 5 p.m. at the Farm Bureau Building, 402 N. Hershey Rd in Bloomington.

All voting members are welcome to attend. Reservations are not required.

## Young Leaders ISU Basketball Event

Join the McLean County Young Leaders at Redbird Arena on Sat. Feb. 18 for the 2012 SEARS BracketBuster to watch ISU battle a top non-conference opponent.

The game time and matchup will be selected by ESPN on Mon. Jan. 30.

Tickets are \$5 each and can be purchased by contacting the McLean County Farm Bureau office at (309) 663-6497.

## New MCFB Member Discount Offered



McLean County Farm Bureau members can now save \$1 off any loaf at Great Harvest Bread Co.

Just show your MCFB member card at the Great Harvest Bread store located at 1704 Eastland Drive in Bloomington.

**Scholarship:** two \$1,000 scholarships, requires an additional essay, must be a junior or senior attending ISU or U of I, ag-related major required

- **Greg Carney Scholarship:** \$1,500, 4-H and production ag background required, must be a University of Illinois Student with ag-related major
- **Dale E. Butz Scholarship:** \$1,000, ag-related major required
- **Fletcher A. Gourley, Leonard Southwell and Roger Capps Scholarship:** six \$2,000 awards to children of Prairie Farms Dairy patrons

For a complete list of requirements and to download the application visit [www.iaafoundation.org](http://www.iaafoundation.org).