



Waunakee Rotary Club

June 22, 2006
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Karen Endres discussed the importance of the dairy industry at the June 15 meeting of the Waunakee Rotary Club.

Karen and husband Randy own a 950-acre dairy farm in the Waunakee area with two other families – Endres Berryridge Farms. She does public relations for a cheese manufacturer and is a member of the board of directors of the Dairy Business Association.

The first Wisconsin settlers brought their cows with them. In the state's early years, 95 percent of the people lived on farms. As people moved off the farms, it became important to increase production per cow.

Today, there are 15,000 dairy farms in Wisconsin, and 99 percent of them are family-owned. Wisconsin is home to 1.2 million cows. About 85 percent of Wisconsin's dairy production goes to cheese products.

About 160,000 Wisconsin residents are employed in the dairy industry.

Among the economic challenges faced by dairy farmers is that the price of products is increasing slower than the farmers' costs. Wisconsin loses five dairy farms every day.

Wisconsin dairy farmers take care of their land in order to keep their animals healthy and productive. Karen said her farm has implemented a number of environmental improvements, such as retention ponds and

controlling stormwater run-off.

Other items:

- A sign-up sheet circulated for the district governor's welcome party in Columbus.
- Another sign-up sheet circulated for the June 29 steak fry.
- Larry Felsheim is still looking for ideas for the Waunafest float.
- Service Club Olympics is coming up, Larry reminds us. He's looking for someone to play Euchre. Other fun events are available, and the meal is superb.
- Rotarians took some time to spruce up the Rotary Plaza.

Guests: Henry Sanders and Robert Chappell, guests of Lisa Pertzborn-Whiting; Sam Ballweg, guest of Ken Ballweg.

Visiting Rotarians: None.

Birthdays: June 22, Paul Hermanson; June 27, Tammy Reeve; June 28, Rod Cupp.

Anniversaries: June 23, Frank and Joann Bucaida; June 23, Jim and Chris Steffenhagen; June 27, Kim and Nanette Wilde.

Prayers: June 22, Leonard Allen; June 29, Kim Wilde; July 6, Pat Durden; July 13, Msgr. Kramer; July 20, Larry Felsheim; July 27, Susan Vergeront.

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Calendar of Events:

June 25, District Governor welcome party in Columbus
June 29, steak fry
July 14, Rotary Plaza work
July 24-25, Service Club Olympics
Sept. 30-Oct. 1, Oktoberfest

Programs: June 22, Dave Magnum, candidate for Congress; June 29, ???; July 6, Club Assembly; July 13 ???; July 20, Mike Hanson, candidate for sheriff.

Greeters: June 22, Bob Nicholson and Ed Niebuhr; June 29, Ron Niesen and Linda Olson; July 6, Danny Paul and Ted Pertzborn; July 13, Lisa Pertzborn-Whiting and Ken Pesik; July 20, Dick Pilsner and Bob Pulvermacher.

Perspectives on golf:

- An interesting thing about golf is that no matter how badly you play, it is always possible to get worse.
- Golf is the only sport where the most feared opponent is you.
- Golf is like marriage. If you take yourself too seriously, it won't work. And both are expensive.