October 2015 News ‘n Notes

ANIMART recently added Erica Reierson (2015) as an inside sales representative in the dairy and livestock division where she will work with territory managers in Michigan to build and maintain customer relationships.


The following Agricultural Education graduates were recognized at the Wisconsin Association of Agricultural Educators Awards Program in June 2015

- Walter Taylor (2011) for the Teachers Turn the Key Scholarship
- Jake Cramer (2009) for Outstanding Young Member
- Jeanna James (2008) for the Ideas Unlimited Award
- Candice Olson (2004) for Agriscience Teacher of the Year
- Paul Larson (1987) for Outstanding Agricultural Education Teacher

Mark (2010) and Tiffany (Cichon; 2011) Schaffner are finalists for the Wisconsin Farm Bureau’s Excellence in Ag Award. Mark works for Dairyland labs as a precision agriculture specialist; Tiffany is the agriculture education teacher and FFA advisor for the Rosholt School District. They live in Amherst with their son.

Lindsey Prahl (2005) and her husband Ryan are finalists for the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Young Farmer and Agriculturalist Achievement Award. They live with their three children on their dairy farm in Wausau. The winner will be announced at the 2015 WFBF Annual Meeting in December.

Agricultural Marketing Communications alumna Leslie (Schuler) Svacina (2004) was featured in an article in The Country Today titled “St. Croix County woman taps into resources to help ensure her new farm goes mostly ... according to plan.” She was interviewed about starting her farm, the resources she used along the way and her hopes for the future. Leslie is also an Excellence in Ag finalist named by the Wisconsin Farm Bureau.

Nolan King (2001), an Agricultural Engineering Technology graduate with an art minor, was featured in the Aug/Sept issue of Concrete Decor. Nolan created the UWRF seal outside of South Hall which is one of his projects featured in the article.

Becky Schley (1999), Dairy Herd Manager at the Mann Valley Farm received the 2015 Most Improved Herd Award at the 65th Pierce County Dairy Recognition Banquet earlier this month. That same day she delivered the triplet calves pictured in this very newsletter!

Agricultural Education graduate and current Ag Instructor at Sleepy Eye High School in Minnesota, Mary Hoffmann (1995), was honored with the Region III 2015 ACTE (Association for Career & Technical Education) Carl Perkins Community Service Award. She is one of five finalists for the national title to be announced at the awards banquet in November in New Orleans. The award is presented to a member how has made a significant impact on a community/humanitarian cause through leadership in programs and activities that promote community involvement.
Agricultural Education graduate Tari (Wick) Costello (1988) recently wrote the article, “Shortage of ag teachers growing concern,” in the Fond du Lac Reporter. Tari is with the Waupun Area School district and spoke about the need for more agriculture educators in Wisconsin.

Greg Zwald (1974) was just appointed to a six-year term with the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection Board (DATCP). Greg, a former dairy farmer is now a berry farmer. He and his wife Irma own White Pine Berry Farm in River Falls.

Agricultural Education graduate Glenn L. Linder (1970) was recognized at the Wisconsin State FFA Convention and inducted into the Wisconsin FFA Hall of Fame. He taught for one year at Blanchardville High School and then 23 years at Pecatonica, and now resides in Blanchardville.