

## Maryland Plans Dairy Youth Weekend

FREDERICK, Md. — Maryland dairy youth have the opportunity to participate in a unique, mostly non-competitive, fun learning atmosphere — the Maryland Dairy Youth Weekend — to be held June 19-21 at the Frederick County 4-H Camp and Activities Center.

The program is 5-years-old and started through the efforts of coordinators Rebecca Long Chaney and Susan Summers, long-time friends who met and grew up together participating in 4-H dairy activities.

Summers said that, in reflecting about all the information they were exposed to in 4-H and mainstream dairy youth activities, they realized that there was always a competitive atmosphere that seemed to discourage some youth from participating and learning more.

At the same time, as dairy youth leaders, they realized that more and more of the Maryland youth participating in 4-H dairy activities do not have the benefit of being raised on a dairy farm and being exposed to the inside workings of the industry and community.

The program is not sponsored

by any specific organization, but through a coordinated effort, it is sponsored by almost all of the Maryland dairy industry, Summers said.

She said that what has been created is a non-competitive atmosphere where dairy youth can come together to learn, in addition to dairy related things, such as personal growth skills such as self-motivation, public speaking, how to write thank you notes, and other finer aspects of civil and accepted social and community behavior.

Summers said that when she and Long Chaney were growing up, they learned those things at home, in the community, in 4-H and in dairy princess promotions.

But she said it is unfair to youth who haven't had the benefit of growing up immersed in the industry to know those things that may be taken for granted by those with extensive backgrounds in the dairy community.

The program is open to all Maryland dairy youth, from ages 8 to 18 (the program is not designed for youth aged younger than 8).

In essence the program Summers described seems similar to convention activities offered in

Pennsylvania by the Holstein Association and the Penn State Dairy Club's All-Breeds Convention.

Lee Majesky, dairy specialist with the University of Maryland Extension Service, coordinates the state Junior Dairyman's Contest and it is held as part of the youth weekend. It is competitive for those who wish to participate, and there is \$1,000 in prize money awarded.

However, the rest of the weekend and material presentation is in a non-competitive format.

Each participant pays \$20 for the three days, which begins with registration from 6-7 p.m. Friday, June 19 and ends at noon on Sunday, June 21.

The rest of the costs of the program are covered through donations by regional and national agribusinesses, dairy breed organizations, the Frederick County Farm Bureau, dairy women and young farmers, and anonymous donors.

She said that each participant leaves with gifts and prizes, along with new information and meeting many others with like interests.

Some of the events scheduled during the three days includes a

Friday night dance, a swimming party, and different fun activities, such as being put into groups and working together to create a video promotion.

New this year is to be a "mock sale," during which the youth are to be allocated a certain amount of "money" and be given a "herd" to improve. With the list of pedigrees being offered in the play cattle sale, the youth are to make selections and purchase cattle to improve the herd and make best use of the money allocated.

Dennis Remsburg is to help with that program and offer views on selections.

There also are to be dairy leaders speaking about show prepara-

tion, show ethics and sportsmanship; careers in agriculture and resume preparation; dairy judging and dairy breed and product promotion; and motivational speakers.

There also to be lots of interaction among the youth with a pizza party and movie added.

The first deadline for registration passed before the announcement was made available outside of the immediate Maryland area. Late registration is \$25. Checks should be made payable to: Maryland Dairy Youth Weekend. The mailing address is: C/O Rebecca Long Chaney, 2047 Dennings Road, New Windsor, Md., 21776.

For more information, call Chaney at (410) 775-7041, or Summers at (301) 865-1045.

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## New SUN Area Princess To Be Crowned

SELINGROVE (Snyder Co.) — The SUN Area dairy industry will hold its dairy festivities here June 11-13.

There is a wide variety of activities planned, including the crowning of a new dairy princess.

On Friday, June 12, beginning at 6 p.m., Turkey Hill's Giant Ice Cream Sundae will be built in the Boscov's Court. The sundae will reach seven feet tall and be made with 135 gallons of ice cream, 10 gallons of chocolate fudge, 25 pounds of pecans, and five gallons of cherries.

On Saturday, June 13, there will be a petting zoo in Boscov's Garden Center from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. with calves from the six main dairy breeds. There will also be a Celebrity Cow Milking Contest featuring local well-known people who will test their cow milking skills. The event will begin at 1 p.m. under the tent in front of Boscov's.

There will be a Scooper Bowl sponsored by Swineford Bank held in Boscov's North Court from 1 p.m.-9 p.m. All proceeds will benefit the SUN Area FFA Scholarship Fund.

At 7 p.m. in the Boscov's Court, the 24th annual SUN Area Dairy Princess Pageant will be held. The contestants will be holding a fashion show. They will model fashions from Boscov's.

This year, three contestants will be in the dairy pageant. Also in the program, there will be 11 dairy maids and 12 dairy misses.

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