

Kids Korner



Lindsay Fessler's family joins her on stage at the Berks County Dairy Princess Pageant where Lindsay was crowned Lil' Dairy Miss. With her are her parents Leslie and Mark, and brothers, Matthew, 13, and Dustin, 8.



Lil' Miss Berks County Dairy Miss Lindsay Fessler tells a third-grade class at Conrad Weiser West Elementary School all about living on a dairy farm.

Six-Year-Old Sings To Promote Milk

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Wolmesdorf (Berks Co.) — Six-year-old Lindsay Fessler loves to sing. She sings in the car, in the house, and in the barn.

In fact Lindsay is seldom quiet. She has a loud, clear voice, which is what musical professionals classify as an excellent voice for her age.

Every since she was three years old, Lindsay has wanted to become a professional singer and dancer like country singer Shania Twain.

It's Lindsay's voice and singing ability that helped influence judges to select her from five contestants to represent Berks County as the Lil' Dairy Miss for one year.

To the surprise of the audience, Lindsay's performance at the pageant in May was the first time she sang a solo before an audience. Since then, she sings at about four promotional events a week.

The song Lindsay sings is called "Matt's Milking Song." Matt is her brother who got the song from his second-grade teacher. This is the words to the song that Lindsay sang at pageant and sings at dairy promotions:

Matt's Milking Song

Early in the morning let me tell you what we do. We milk the cows and we wash them too. Mom and Dad and my sister Dee, we all work together we're a farm family

Milk with cereal. Milk with cake. We get the milk that cows make. Milk for breakfast and dinner too. I like milk. How about you?

We keep the barn nice and clean. To milk a cow we use a milking machine. We got many cows not just one. It takes quite awhile to get the job done.

Milk with cereal. Milk with cake. We get the milk that the

cows make. Milk for breakfast and dinner too. I like milk. How about you?

The cows are fed grass, grain, and hay. We milk the cows twice a day. To get the milk that you buy, my family works hard and so do I.

Milk with cereal. Milk with cake. We get the milk that the cows make. Milk for breakfast and dinner too. I like milk. How about you?

Lindsay's parents, Leslie and Mark Fessler, milk 150 Holsteins on their family farm, which has been in the family for three generations. They farm 650 acres and raise replacement heifers.

Lindsay helps on the farm. She helps feed the calves, gives them water and grain. She also helps get the cows in from pasture. Lindsay loves to ride bicycle and play outdoors.

Lindsay has two brothers: Matthew, 13, and Dustin, 8. Matthew helps on the farm and drives equipment.

The family is building a new free-style barn and a herringbone milking parlor, where they can milk 11 cows at a time.

Lindsay's mother did not grow up on the farm, but she works hard on it and enjoys it. She is the main milker and prefers that more than the job she held working outside the home for 10 years.

Lindsay's mother said, "I like milking because I can come and go in between. She gets up at 3:30 in the morning to be ready to milk cows at 4 a.m. In the afternoon she milks the cows at 2:30 or 3:00 in order to be able to attend evening events.

Much of the time she drives

Lindsay to many activities. Lindsay is a cheerleader for Conrad Weiser Little League Football, and she tap and jazz dances for Marie Shaw Studio in West Lawn.

Lindsay had been shy, her mother said. But the experience as Little Miss has helped her mature and really come out of a shell.

Lindsay visited Conrad Weiser West Elementary School, where she is in first grade. She told her classmates about cows and milk. Lindsay took her calf to show students at the school. She handed out coloring books and erasers to all first graders in school.

Most of the children had never seen a calf before. They really enjoyed petting the calf and watching it drink out of bottle.

Lindsay attends many interesting events such as throwing the first pitch at a Reading Phillies game.

She also helped with a promotion at local banks, where she handed out goodies to many people who attended. Lindsay continues to get requests for magnets, pens and other 'got milk' stuff that help people remember to drink milk.

She also helps the dairy princesses with serving milk drinks to visitors attending promotional events. Lindsay's favorite flavor is pina colada. She said adding a teaspoon of sweetened Kool Aid or Daiquiri mix to milk gives milk a totally different and yummy flavor. Her favorite ice cream flavor is chocolate.

Lindsay reminds everyone to drink milk, because it is important for all ages to drink milk for strong bones and health.



This is Lindsay singing her promotional song before a classroom. As the Berks County Lil' Dairy Miss, Lindsay hands out dairy-related goodies and tells them about the importance of drinking milk and eating dairy products.



Lindsay, her brother Dustin, and Grandfather David Strunk take a calf to school. Many of the first and third grade classes they visit have never seen a calf before.

