



News from the Wilson County Fair

# The FIDDLERS NOTE



Thursday, August 23, 2018

[www.wilsoncountyfair.net](http://www.wilsoncountyfair.net)

## Wilson County Century Farm program adds No. 93

Cragwall Beechgrove Farm, owned by Thomas O. Cragwall and his wife, Doris, was added to the roster of certified Century Farms in Wilson County at the 24th Annual Century Farm Luncheon today at the Wilson County Fair. Founded in 1848, Beechgrove Farm was certified for over 150 years of continuous agricultural production. Located on Canoe Branch Road, Lebanon, the farm originally had 242 acres. The Cragwalls own 90 of the original acres, where they raise Angus cattle, hay and a small garden. The founder was T.O. Harris, great great uncle of T.O. Cragwall, who is the fourth generation to own the farm. Harris sold it to his nephew, William Temple Cragwall, and T.O.'s father, William Clarence Cragwall, was one of four siblings to inherit their father's farm. During its prime, Cragwall's farm produced tobacco, corn, wheat, oats, barley, cotton and large gardens. They raised cattle, hogs, sheep, chickens and mules. A bill of sale from April 18, 1919 shows that 104 hogs were sold for \$3,599.31, an average of \$34.60 per head. The oldest structure on the farm is a log crib built



Photographer: Lounita Howard

circa 1876. In its fifth location, it is still in remarkable condition. The farm house was built in 1927 and has been remodeled to excellent condition. Emcee of the lun-

cheon was Ryan Ingram, Farm Bureau Insurance. Guest speaker was Pettus Read, retired Tenn. Farm Bureau Federation Director of Communications.



## Year of Milk spurs Ice Cream event

An Ice Cream Eating Contest was held Wednesday evening at the Fair, with divisions for youth and adults. Sponsored by Wilson Bank & Trust, the contest was an outgrowth of this year's Year of Milk, the agricultural commodity of the 2018 Wilson County Fair. At left, Madison Tuttle was the winner in the youth division. At right, Jeff Rowe of Watertown put down the most ice cream sandwiches to win the adult division.

Photographer: Rick Thorne



The Fiddlers Note is produced for the Wilson County Fair by The Edge newspaper, Lounita Howard, Publisher



Photographer: Rick Thorne

## Open Junior Dairy Cattle Show

Emma Gilmore was among youth competing in the Junior Dairy Cattle Show on Wednesday evening at the Fair. She placed second in the lot in which she competed with this heifer. There were 21 lots.

## FFA Ag Olympics held for first time



Wilson Central FFA's team was the winner of the first annual FFA Ag Olympics at the Fair, held Tuesday evening. The competition included dressing a scarecrow school mascot, team balloon race, greased pig, and wheel barrel race. They were awarded a revolving "Something to Crow About" trophy to display at their school until next year's event.



Photographer: Lounita Howard

## Hale Moss Memorial Belt Buckle presented

Emma Ruston of Waverly was awarded the 2018 Hale Moss Memorial Award belt buckle for Grand Champion Heifer in the Tennessee Junior Hereford Association State Show. The buckle was provided by Barney Cosner, with the Freemont County Fair in Wyoming. A contemporary of the late Hale Moss, he wanted to do something special in memory of the the long-time president and visionary of the Wilson County Fair. Cosner was unable to attend, but another friend, Herb Higgs, who was with the South Panhandle Fair in Texas, was on hand for the presentation. Presenting Emma with the buckle is Terry McPeak. Inset: the beautiful buckle.



## Live streaming piglets' birth draws world-wide audience

A popular new exhibit by Edwards Feeds of Lebanon is drawing an audience across the world. Three sows were bred to give birth during the fair, and the event was live streamed on Facebook. The first pigs were born Wednesday night (shown above). The event has inspired a gofundme account to raise money to build a permanent birthing center on the fairgrounds, to make natural birthing a permanent exhibit. Find the account at [gofundme.com/wilson-county-fair-birthing-barn](https://www.gofundme.com/wilson-county-fair-birthing-barn) or make donations at the fair office. The goal is to continue the preservation of agriculture through education.