State Superintendent of Schools Elizabeth Burmaster and Wisconsin First Lady Jessica Doyle surprised and unsuspecting Kendra Naef with a Milken National Educator Award on October we, 2005!! The award was presented at an all school assembly attended by federal, state and local officials, students, staff members, community leaders.

Ms. Naef, who teaches family and consumer science at Kimberly High School, is one of two winners in Wisconsin and 100 winners across the nation. The Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award provides public recognition and an unrestricted financial prize of $25,000 to educational professionals who are furthering excellence in education. Recipients are presented with their award checks at the annual Milken National Education Conference, an all-expense-paid professional development conference held in Washington D.C.

Unlike most teaching awards, the Milken Educator awards have no formal nomination or application process. Educators are recommended for this prestigious honor with out their knowledge by a blue-ribbon panel appointed by each state’s department of education.

Kendra was recognized as one who both teaches students and inspires colleagues. She is described as having a strength of character that makes her a visible professional and life-long learner who is constantly exploring both her profession and discipline, which she than transfers to her classroom. The Partners Program she developed pairs cognitively dis-abled and regular education students, using team-building exercises to forge a strong bond and sense of camaraderie among students to support both academic and developmental learning.

Naef recently earned a grant for a new leadership program. Her impact in the classroom is demonstrated by the increasing number of students who either enter into related fields upon graduation or pursue post-secondary education in related disciplines.

“Ms Naef has been the facilitator of our Family and Consumer Sciences Department for several years. With the support of her departmental colleagues, Mrs. Wickman, Ms. Van Berkel, and Mrs. Van Schydel, our program has grown in both enrollment and opportunities for learning,” states Kimberly High School Principal Mike Rietveld. “Kendra is a visionary leader who has the ability to recognize the need for a program and then create a solution that benefits both students and community. She inspires her colleagues to strive for excellence.”

Active on numerous committees and as a workshop presenter, Naef received the national New Achiever Award from the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences. She is currently working on a concurrent master’s and doctorate degree in Family and Consumer Education. Kendra is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Stout. Prior to teaching in Kimberly, she served as an adjunct instructor in early childhood education at Fox Valley Technical College.
Message from The President

For all of you, the bounty of fall color and warm temperatures has been seasoned with the busy-ness of work and family. Your WAFCS Council has also been busy working for you during this fall season.

Conversation Cafés took place both in Fort Atkinson and in Madison. Our national organization has been considering some very important questions about the future of our organization and our field. To make informed recommendations, the Board has decided to undertake a structured process know as Future Search to help us involve more members and stakeholders in this decision process. The goal is to examine more broadly the topic, “The Future of Family and Consumer Science and Our Place In It: How will we adapt to change AND change our world?” at an invitational Conference in early December 2005. The FCS Conversation Cafés, hosted by affiliates across the country, preceded this invitational event and provided opportunity to contribute our best thinking and wisdom to the future of AAFCS and our field. Barbara George from Nasco, Mary Germaine from Reality-Works, and Laura VanWaardHuizen from Lands End will be participating in the invitational Conference in December.

More information and updates about this process will be posted on the AAFCS website. The resulting proposal will be presented at the WAFCS annual meeting in March. Voting on the proposal will occur at the AAFCS annual meeting in June.

Please carefully peruse the attached program for the WAFCS annual meeting, March 2-4, 2006. Judith Knudsen and her committee have worked tirelessly to bring you a conference designed to provide new ideas, stimulation, networking and fun! 

Sign up NOW!! I look forward to seeing many of you there. There is no more important time than now to be actively involved in AAFCS/WAFCS.

Thank you for all you do for FCS. Remember, you can contact me at any time either by email at janetmpowell@sbcglobal.net or phone at 608.271.0776.

Sincerely, Janet

WAFCS Annual Conference, 2006

Sizing Up Wisconsin: Healthy Choices Through the Lifespan will be the theme of the 2006 WAFCS Annual Aonference scheduled for March 2-4, 2006 at the Neenah Holiday Inn, Riverwalk.

The conference begins on Thursday, March 2nd with a selection of tours. The WAFCS Council meeting will be held that evening. The conference on Friday, March 3rd focuses on the conference theme with keynote presentations and breakout sessions emphasizing healthy choices through the lifespan. Health fair late afternoon, evening dinner and entertainment conclude the day. A number of P/GS activities are scheduled, and March 4th will offer workshops, business meeting and keynote speakers.

Registration materials will be distributed in December.

Mark your calendar to attend this professional development opportunity.
Stephanie Love—Chair

I am Stephanie Love a senior, non-traditional, student at UW-Stout. I have returned to school to accomplish a long-time goal and enjoy being involved with campus level activities. I like to describe myself as outgoing, friendly and determined. I work hard to balance my time between school, work and family. I am excited to begin my new position as Chair of P/GS and hope to be able to learn new things and take them back to the student section to help educate and increase membership. My goal is to apply myself in the community and to student activities in Menomonie as well as in Tri-Campus involvement. I hope to achieve internal and group organized accomplishments. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to work with all of you, Professionals and students, alike.

Nicholas Kleifgen—1st Vice Chair

Hi, my name is Nick Kleifgen. I am a senior at UW-Stevens Point and I am a family life educator. My goals for after graduation are to work at a Boys and Girls Club, YMCA, or a recreation department somewhere. I am looking forward to being the first vice chair this year for WAFCS.

Crystal Bradwell—2nd Vice Chair

Hi, my name is Crystal Bradwell. I am enrolled in Family and Consumer Science Education at the University of Wisconsin Stout. I plan to graduate in December of 2006. Until graduation, I want to be very active in my major that is why I joined WAFCS. I am proud to say that I was elected to the 2005-2006 P/GS Second Vice Chair position. As an officer I hope to raise awareness of the organization to all students and increase our student enrollment. I look forward to spending the next year fulfilling my duties as an officer and working with everyone in the organization.

Maureen Adair—Secretary

Hello everyone! This is my second year as a WAFCS P/GS state officer. This year as secretary I am having a fun time trying to organize a scrapbook of all the conferences, meetings and activities that WAFCS P/GS does. I also get to put these newsletters together, so if there is anything you would like to see in the future please contact me. So far this year has been great with your state conference in October; we had some great speakers and good information. My goal for this year is to recruit more students to become apart of WAFCS P/GS and especially to attend the state and national conferences this year.

Amanda Fallbacher—Inner-campus relations

My name is Mandy Fallbacher and I am currently a senior majoring in Family and Consumer Education at The University of Wisconsin-Madison. I plan to become a high school teacher. I would like to teach courses in the family and consumer field. I love how there are so many subject options. My goal as an officer is to promote further student involvement with WAFCS on campus. I would also like to find additional ways to benefit the community through our organization. I am open to suggestions on how to do this; I can be contacted at AJFallbacher@wisc.edu. This is my first year as an officer and I look forward to meeting people and learning more about the organization.

Hello,

The P/GS Student section has been very busy… Our fall student conference in Stevens Point went so well, thanks to those that helped get it all together.

We started the morning with a great panel of new professionals and for the afternoon we had a poverty simulation and Dr. Susan Wolfgram on the program for financial literacy. It was a great day with about 30 in attendance, a great lunch, a short meeting and prizes.

Thanks to those that purchased tickets for our raffle, our grand prize quilt winner was Barb Wolff, of Rhinlander, WI.

We now begin to look forward to the spring. State Conference in Neenah will be March 2-4th. Student events are being planned, our state community event will be a “Fun” Walk with healthy food donations to be given to a local charity.

See you all in the spring
Love, Stephanie
Wisconsin Participates in Conversation Cafés

On November 2, NASCO hosted the first of two Wisconsin Conversation Cafés. The participants had the opportunity to tour the NASCO facility followed by a light lunch. Twenty attendees participated in the conversation process. The following week a Conversation Café was also held at Madison Memorial High School in Madison, with 28 attendees. Participants included AAFCS/WAFCS Members, people from the business community as well as other decision makers and stakeholders in Wisconsin. The decisions on both evenings were both stimulating and interesting. Final reports were prepared and sent to the national office. Thank you to the many individuals who helped to make the Café’s possible.

Pictures above are from the NASCO Café.
Quilt Raffle & Notecard Sale

A beautiful quilt was made by WAFCS members during 2004 in recognition of the 10th Anniversary of the International Year of the Family (IYF). It was donated to the Foundation and inspired the creation of matching notecards that are now for sale. With the help of all members, the Foundation is now conducting a raffle for the prestigious quilt and offering the notecards for sale. Your purchase of raffle tickets and notecards supports the foundation in providing scholarships and travelships for student and professional members.

Background of the Quilt

The quilt was the “brainchild” of Diane Klemme and Judy Rommel with lots of help from Diane Brion. Diane Klemme and Judy prepared quilt square packets suing fabric from five continents: Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, and North America.

Members were invited to create their own square from packet materials along the theme of the International Year of the Family. The three women marveled at the creativity shown by those who participated and the result is a beautiful, extremely meaningful work of art.

The quilt blocks were assembled by Diane, Judy, and Diane and it was machine quilted. It was displayed at the 2005 WAFCS Annual Meeting and then presented to the WAFCS Foundation to be used for fundraising purposes. Thanks to the Herculean efforts of Kendra Naef, coordinated notecards were created and raffle tickets were printed.

Sales of Raffle Tickets & Notecards

Members and friends are encouraged to buy raffle tickets and notecards. The drawing for the 72” x 72” quilt, which can be used as a wall hanging, will be held at the March, 2006 Annual Meeting in Neenah. Viewers at the 2005 AAFCS display of the quilt/wall hanging described it as ‘a museum quality archival item.’ This may be your last opportunity to purchase a chance to make this work of art your own.

Ordering Raffle Tickets and Notecards

Yes, I want to purchase raffle tickets and/or notecards to support the WAFCS Foundation.
I understand that this will help provide scholarships and travelships.

_____ I want to order QUILT RAFFLE TICKETS (5 tickets for $10.).

______packets of 5 tickets at $10.00/packet = $_______

_____ I want to order QUILT NOTECARDS (10 cards per packet).

______packets of 10 cards at $10./packet = $_______

TOTAL ORDER; $_______

Ticket stubs and/or notecards will be mailed to you at the following address:

Name:________________________________________________________________________

Address:______________________________________________________________________

City, State, Zip Code:__________________________________________________________ Phone________________________
National Leadership Lab in Indianapolis

What a wonderful experience! It is so rewarding to know that you are surrounded by talented, gifted, and determined leaders. I recently spent a few days in Indianapolis, Indiana working long hours on becoming a strong leader for the State of Wisconsin. We were busy each and every day learning how the association works from the inside out, what we need to do to move the association forward and worked on public policy.

Betty Trost from Iowa and the VP of Affiliates led us in the leadership section of the weekend, AAFCS President Don Bower was with us as well and gave us a very moving talk. For the second half of the weekend, members of the public policy committee worked with us on public policy. We first went through an actual forum on obesity and then they discussed areas of executing a forum in our own states on obesity or any topic.

Over all the weekend was very successful and I have many resources to share with the membership. This was a “shot in the arm” that can move our state along with the entire association forward to our 100th anniversary. I am more excited now then I have ever been before. We have lots of excitement coming. Stay tuned...

Jennie Paulson

Family Econ/Resource Mgmt Newsletter Article

With regard to community resources available to families, UW Extension offers some of the best to meet the various needs of families. A point for consideration is that “until needed we don’t know what or where resources are” (Lana Anderson, Family Living Educator, Dunn County).

Links to numerous useful websites can be reached with the site http://www.uwex.edu/ces/. Particularly helpful information can be obtained from Wisconsin Families- Issues and Demographics, a Poverty Simulation, a Self Sufficiency Standard and other foods, nutrition, parenting and financial information. Some links provide surveys and power points that can be downloaded for easy access and use.

As Family and Consumer Educators we can take the research and turn it into practical use in our classrooms, communities and classrooms.

Division Section Chair
Mary Kennedy, CFCS

Attention Members

Please bring entries for the 2006 Art and Design Show. Members who are not able to attend should contact a region president or another council member to have your entries brought to the Annual Conference. Also, members attending should be sure to pursue the Art and Design show and vote for a winning entry.

Veronica Campbell, Art and Design Chairperson

A potpourri of topics:

Friend of WAFCS
How to become known as a CFCS and, lastly — Silent Auction items.

Two nominations for our Friend of WAFCS Award for 2006 have been received, and you still may submit your suggestion to Sue Simon by December 21st, 2005. If you know of a corporate, government, or private citizen who deserves to be recognized for their contribution to the causes of WAFCS, secure a nomination form from Sue by e-mailing her at bobsue@chorus.net or calling her at 608-833-2653.

Interested in having the title of “CFCS “after your name? Judy Rommel has graciously offered to explain the process at a breakout session at the WAFCS spring conference for interested parties, with the goal of our offering the testing at the 2007 conference.

As the seasons change, think of picking up sale items that would be appropriate for our Silent Auction next March. Homemade and handmade items, especially consumables, are also popular, so consider spending some long wintry eves on these projects.

The proceeds support our WAFCS Foundation, which awards travel ships and scholarships to our students. Consider soliciting a big ticket item from a local corporation, or Sue would be glad to contact likely corporate candidates in the Neenah area, if you would give her contact names. Suggestions might be certificates for weekends at resorts or hotels; golfing packages, tickets to sporting events, theatres, and concerts; pamper packages, dinner parties, etc. Let’s all work to boost our profits for the Foundation!

Sue Simon, V. Pres. External Affairs

We remember

Emma Niendorf

1908-2005

Emma Niendorf died on September 1, 2005 at the age of 96 in Sauk City. She graduated with a BS degree in home economics from UW-Madison in 1931, began her teaching career at Mazomanie High School, and continued at Black River Falls, Beaver Dam and Madison West High School until her retirement in 1970.
Message
from your
Executive Director

One of the constants in life is change. Changes are occurring more rapidly and at times we need to assess our relationship to change. For example, your new directory has recently arrived and several pages were devoted to email addresses. Please look and see if your name was included with a correct email address.

Why is this important? When you fill out your membership form for national the email that you provide enables them to contact you in the event of a public policy alert. This accessibility allows for quicker communication and action than snail mail can provide.

Secondly, more and more communication is taking place in this manner. You may miss out on interesting and vital information if you are not in the loop. Should there be a missing email address next to your name, or incorrect address, I ask you to send an email message to pbondhus@charter.net and I will bring the addition or correction up to date.

Thanks for the cooperation.

Priscilla

55 Years of Teaching

Toby Spotz retired last June after 55 years of teaching F/CE in the Williams Bay School District. She began her tenure there in 1950 after graduating from UW-Madison and has seen many changes including a name change from Home Economics to Family & Consumer Education. She noted that her discipline has changed during the years as more emphasis is placed on “family and family relationships.”

Favorite memories include the 43 years of cooperation between her high school classes and the first graders of the elementary school. Each Christmas season the two levels of children ‘teamed up’ to bake cookies together.

Staff members reported “how much she cares about kids.” The district administrator saw her as “a rare example of selflessness and love of students.” Toby was quoted as ‘being motherly to her students but she held them to a high standard as far as manners and respect.” Her principal reported that during her 55-year career there were incredible societal and educational changes, but “her commitment to rock-solid old school values has not wavered at all.” Her work ethic, loyalty, and sense of duty were shining examples for all students and teachers in the community, from current students to their grandparents.

In her retirement, Toby intends to remain active, which is no surprise to her many friends. She hopes to spend more time with her daughter, a teacher for Milwaukee Public Schools and son, Peter, who works for the Royal Copenhagen Porcelain Co. in Denmark.

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Want to feel good?
Read Carlocito, The Love Story

A story of love and triumph, and perhaps proof that honor and loyalty exist, even among pets.

When he hears his humans planning to castrate him, Carlocito, a pet burdened with an awareness we don’t ordinarily associate with cats, runs away from home. After having survived the inclemency of the outside world, he returns home to find his mistress desperately ill and she sees him through his eyes — “He carried me upstairs to Jaylah’s room and lay me gently on her bed. She was sleeping the way only Jewish could sleep, sprawled and oblivious. Her eyes had dark circles under them, and her thick dark hair was oily and stringy. The top of the nightstand was cluttered with medicine bottles, and the odor of alcohol burned my nostrils. I imagined that death would smell like this.”

The author, who lives in Middleton, Wisconsin, wrote this feline tale as a remembrance for a granddaughter who loved a cat named Carlocito. The cat, like all things living, eventually passed on, but he hasn’t been forgotten.

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