

Self-propelled equipment is becoming more prevalent. The storage of the harvest has also changed the landscape of farms. Instead of vertical storage silos, a new form of storage is the tarp covered horizontal bunker. These have decreased the labor involved in storage and handling of the crops.

Still preserving the family farm ethics are the many prosperous dairy operation that dot the countryside of Morrison. Here are just a few of the larger operations in the township.

Klug's Dairy has been in the Klug name for over 100 years and is currently owned and operated by Paul, Rudy, and Carl Klug, sons of Rudolph H. Klug. The farm was originally owned by Rudolph's father, Norbert Klug. Farming runs deep in the Klug family. Rudolph's daughters Lisa (Kevin) Collins and Carla (Tim) Kane, both own larger farms in the Town of Morrison. The Klug farm now milks between 450 and 500 cows, with 500 head of replacement heifers. In 1979, they held the highest herd average of all farms in the state of Wisconsin, milking over a 100 cows. The record they held is with 201 cows. They produced an average of 17,654 lbs of milk and 711 lbs of butterfat per cow. Since the 1980's a new housing barn has been added. The Klug farm currently operates over 2000 acres of land in the deep family tradition of farming.

The Wayside Dairy, LLC. owned by the Natzke family has a long history tracing back to 1863, when its German ancestors first settled the land. Since that time, the dairy business has evolved and now includes the fourth and fifth generation of dairy producers.

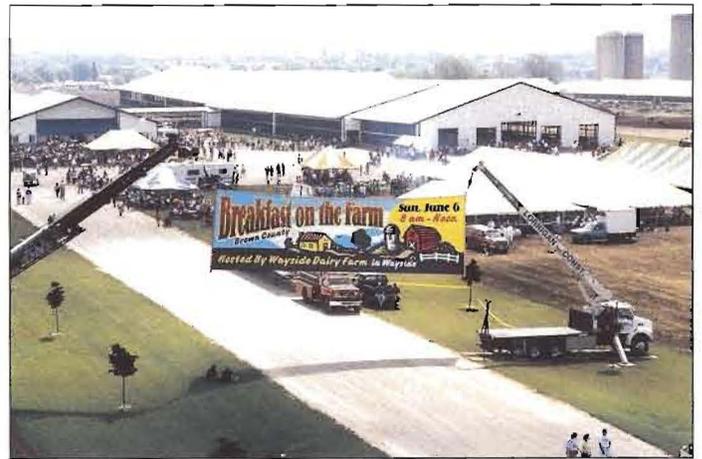
Today, Dan, along with his son, Jeremy and nephew, Paul, runs the 1500 cow dairy farm. Cows are milked three times a day in double-20 milking parlor. Each cow produces 85-90 pounds of milk a day, which equates to the farm handling 100,000-110,000 pounds of milk each day.

Wayside Dairy was completely rebuilt in 2002 after a barn fire destroyed the milking center and many of the outbuildings. The need to rebuild allowed the construction of state-of-the-art facilities, which were built to be as comfortable as possible for both the cows and the 25 full and part-time employees.

In addition to dairy cows, the farm produces corn deluge, and haylage from its 2400 acres of cropland. Also, cottonseed is merchandised to dairymen and feed mills.

"Breakfast on the Farm" was hosted by Wayside Dairy Farm on June 6, 2004. Packers players served breakfast, the Wayside Morrison Concert Band played, there were horse drawn carriage rides, and cows to view. There was also a 7 a.m. church service, attended by many.

The Natzke's are heavily involved in their church community and other farm organizations.



*Aerial view of the Natzke Farm during Breakfast on the farm.*

## THE MILLION DOLLAR COW

Also, for the purpose of history of the township, we must include a different type of farming enterprise. Pearmont Farms was established in 1976. The farm housed a registered herd of foundation Holsteins that became known worldwide.

On November 20, 1982, the record price for a Holstein cow made history in the Town of Morrison. The actual sale price was a cool \$1.25 million. The cow, owned by Tom Pearson, was classified as an EX-96, with records of over 20,000 pounds of milk.

Ivy, a nine year-old cow sired by Osborndale Ivanhoe, led the list on a record breaking dispersal sale that grossed over \$3.4 million on 100 head sold. Corndale Farms, Inc. Georgetown, Ontario, Canada wrote the record breaking check for Ivy. The new owners goal is to produce offsprings to sell to their customers.

Tom Pearson built Pearmont Farms up to the point before the sale. Most of the cattle were sold under his herd prefix. Pearmont Farms closed soon after the sale.

