

Price \$1



*We Remember
We Celebrate
We Believe*

"IT'S ABOUT THE PEOPLE"

Together | Helpfulness | Friendliness

Summer Plans Taking Shape in Uncertain Times



Some say farmers must be optimists to till the field and plant crops in the spring despite knowing all of the potential risks for failure during the growing season. Perhaps in the same way we are planning for a successful summer despite the worrisome potential for the virus.

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Families of Couillardville MSR 2020 Schedule

Friday Aug 28th

530p Pie & Ice Cream Social

7p Paul Family Blue Grass Band

Sat Aug 29th

1030a Antique Set Up

12n Lunch

1p Program

230p Threshing

New -

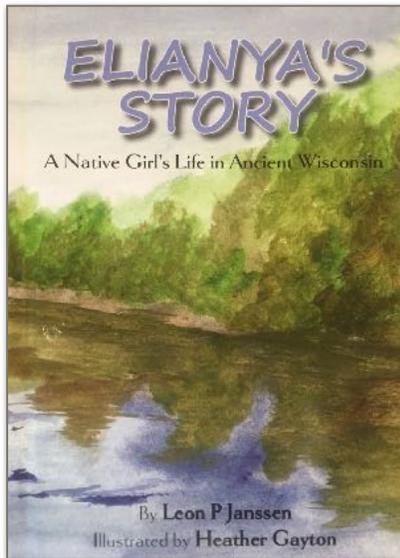
Open to the Public Autumn Historic Farm Day

Saturday September 26th

1030a until 3pm

Potential Activities

- Pumpkin Picking
- Workshop on Making Apple Cider
- Antique Equipment - Hit & Miss Engines, others
- Pig Roast / Wine Tasting

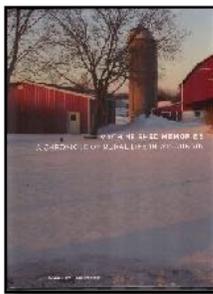


Set around the year A.D. 1000, long before the arrival of non-Native settlers in the region, "Elianya's Story" paints a picture of what daily life may have been like for a young girl growing up in the traditional culture of that era. Though the episodes are fictional, they are based upon careful research into the likely social conditions of that time.

Book is being used in schools around WI.

Learn More

www.elianyasstory.com



Learn About the Families of Couillardville

MACHINE SHED MEMORIES - A Chronicle of Rural Life in Wisconsin
www.machineshedmemories.com \$29.95.

Contact Leon Janssen if you have questions at leonpjanssen@yahoo.com or 262.442.6447.

Meadow Brook Farm Publishing

Ralph Crawford, State Board Member Wisconsin Farm Bureau

The Wisconsin Farm Bureau in a 1959 newsletter featured Ralph Crawford upon his becoming a State Board Member. The following is an excerpt from the story:



Back row: 1 to r: Merrill, Ralph, Carl, First row: 1 to r: Mable, Ethel, Stella. *Correction: Stella was mistakenly identified as Maysel in the prior issue of this newsletter.*

Way back in 1920 Ralph Crawford moved his family up from Iowa to a farm in Oconto County, Wisconsin. The move marked a loss for Iowa and a clear-cut gain for Wisconsin. For in the 39 years that the Crawfords have farmed in northeast Wisconsin, they have moved up and joined the other leading farmers of the state.

When he moved his young family to Wisconsin, he was low on money and high on hope. He's still farming the original 152 acres he bought then, but has added other land and now has 700 acres and 120 Holsteins.

Donlevy Family to be the "Featured Family" June 6 on the Families of Couillardville Copperfest Parade Float 2020

Couillardville Pride Wear

Order the latest version of the Couillardville t-shirt for someone special in your family. Send a check for \$14 (includes tax and shipping & handling) with size and style for each t-shirt to MBF Publishing LLC, 821 Lynnewood Drive, Waukesha, WI 53188. We still have a few of the MSM -Couillardville t-shirts



Limited Qty: M-3, XL-2



Men sizes- Youth - M - L - XL

Enjoy Couillardville County Park

To enhance your use of Couillardville County Park two engaging events are planned for early summer. See the posters created to promote the events.

Please 'like' our *Meadow Brook Farm - Rural Life Center* page on Facebook.

Thomas Howard Couillard Jr. Descendant Adds Bricks

By Michael Couillard

I recently ordered three Couillard family bricks for the Couillardville County Park. The bricks I wanted added to the site are bricks for the family of Thomas H. Couillard Jr. who with his brother traveled from Maine to the new state of Wisconsin. Thomas and his wife had 13 children while living on their farm in Couillardville. Their last child Timothy, born in 1870, was my great-grandfather. Tim took over the family farm and started his family of nine. His first four children were born in the Couillardville farm house. One of those kids was my grandfather Vane, who was born in 1902. In 1903 Tim moved off the farm all the way into Oconto where he lived until he died in 1959. Tim lived at 713 Collins Avenue up until the time of his death.

My grandfather lived at 314 First Street, about 7 blocks from his dad, after he married his bride Anna in 1922. Vane and Anna had 3 children one of them their son William, better known as Bud, who is my Dad. Shortly after returning to Oconto after serving in the Air Force during WW2 Bud married and started his family with my mother Roberta.

So why did I purchase bricks for the park? First, to recognize that my immediate family was an important part of the Couillardville community. Second, because I learned at an early age that family is important part of who I am today, and I felt that it was important to show how loving my family has been to me throughout my life.

Editors Note: Thomas Howard Couillard Jr. was the brother of Jacob Couillard. He arrived in Couillardville shortly after his brother Jacob founded the community. Thomas Howard Jr. built his home and farm on what has become the Detaeje farm on the south side of the Oconto River. Another of Thomas Howard Jrs. children was Sam Couillard.

Honor Your Family

Contact John Matravers if you have questions or a manual order.

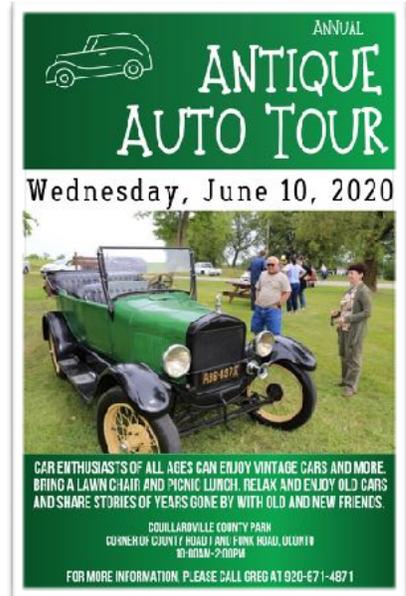
matraversjohn@gmail.com or
920-604-3060



Brick Size	Reg \$	Spec\$	Save\$
4X8	\$150	\$125	\$25
8X8	\$250	\$175	\$75

Order Now & Save
At www.fundraisingbrick.com/couillardville
Order Deadline May 31st for August 2020 Installation

1st Annual Antique Auto Tour

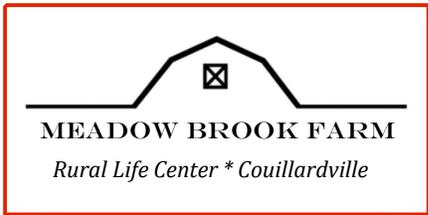


Picnic & CORNHOLE Tournament



Planning for the Future

Creating a Rural Life Center



18 Years of Machine Shed Reunions

First, thanks to all those special Couillardville neighbors who met in the machine shed on Meadow Brook Farm in 2002 and to all of those who have participated in a gathering since! In these 18 years we have honored and given thanks for those who have gone before us and created this special community and way of life...those from whom we learned the values of **togetherness, helpfulness** and **friendliness** from the ways they lived and worked. We live in gratitude for the people and opportunity to grow up Couillardville.

Thanks to the remarkable engagement, commitment, and hard work of the Couillardville neighbors, the original shared dinner and conversations have grown into video family memories and stories, a book of stories of rural life in Couillardville, a Couillardville Park memorial, threshing and more.

We can say with confidence that the ways in which the Families of Couillardville have worked together over these 18 years reinforces our collective belief that this rural crossroads community was truly SPECIAL and it was the PEOPLE who made it special.

In recent years we've wondered if there would be support for sustaining efforts to honor, celebrate and educate on the unique culture that was created in the rural crossroad communities of our area.

Over the past several months a group of Couillardville friends has been planning ways to extend the celebrations of rural life started in Couillardville to others across Oconto County.

The New Idea

Mission (preliminary)

Provide a living history museum and nature conservancy that offers a representation of Oconto County's rural heritage through preservation, restoration and education.

Rural Life Center Organization

An organization is being formed to direct the development and operation of the new center while creating a framework for people across Oconto County to join in this effort.

Legal formation of the new center is underway and pursuit of non-profit status for the center is also being considered. Memberships will be sought in the new organization.

Board Members

The following board members also selected their officers of the new organization.

- Lara Nichols** President
- Mike Donlevy** Vice Pres
- John Matravers** Treasurer
- Greg Senn** Secretary
- Bill Funk**

Lara Nichols *"I am excited to be a part of this new adventure, and to see all of the great things that the Rural Life Center at Meadow Brook Farm will become!"*

John Matravers *"We have an opportunity here to create and expand something special, and we need to share this with others, now and in the future."*

Bill Funk *"The family farm is on the verge of extinction; let's preserve the Couillardville Heritage."*

Gregory Senn *"I have an enthusiastic and lifelong commitment of sharing the importance, wonderment, precious knowledge and joy that early Wisconsin agricultural life can bring to our present day existence!"*

Mike Donlevy *"I am honored to be a part of the Rural Life Center due to my passion for farming. I appreciate the families and heritage that have developed the Couillardville community and look forward to helping preserve this history."*