Temple Grandin
Fort Collins, CO
Advocate for Animals and the Autism Community

Watch animal scientist Temple Grandin, Ph.D., hold a lecture hall spellbound, and you’d never guess fear was part of her vocabulary. But as a teen working on her aunt’s dude ranch, she instantly identified with the panic cattle felt when spooked by a shadow or sudden noise. For her, and others with autism, the world can be a scary place.

A professor at Colorado State University, Temple designed a system for handling livestock that revolutionized the industry. Her curved chutes are used worldwide to reduce stress in farm animals.

When she talks about her unusual life and how her mind works (she didn’t speak until age 4), she inspires kids with autism and young people in general. “So many kids stay inside playing with electronics, not getting exposed to things that could turn into great careers,” she says. “I want to get kids turned on to things they can get interested in—things that will help them succeed.”

To mark our 45th anniversary, we’d like you to meet 45 incredible and inspiring women who embrace and celebrate the country way of life.

By Sharon Selz
MARI A MOREIRA
LANCaster, MA
Farm Educator
Pay a visit to Maria’s farm and you’ll find an agrarian United Nations! She and her husband, both natives of Portugal, started their dairy in 1982. Today, she helps newcomers through her nonprofit organization, World Farmers. Immigrant and refugee farmers from Laos, Liberia, Brazil and beyond are given plots to farm on the Moreiras’ property and trained in U.S. ag techniques. Nearly 250 farmers—80 percent of them women—are in the program, growing common produce along with their own ethnic specialties, from bok choy to Chinese broccoli.

Jenna Woginrich
Cambridge, NY
Modern Homesteader
Trading in her corporate life for one of resourcefulness, Jenna is the solo farmhand at Cold Antler Farm, her scrappy 6-acre mountain homestead. There she raises sheep, dairy goats, poultry, rabbits, pigs and working horses. Her day job is writing, and she has published five books on her experiences as a single woman going back to the land. An avid gardener, soap maker, fiddler and sometime knitter, she enjoys the simple life of woodstoves and daily milking, working full-time on her land. She teaches classes on everything from the mountain dulcimer to raising chickens. You can follow her adventures at barnheart.com.

Leah Penniman
Grafton, NY
Farmer/Teacher/Activist
Leah fell in love with farming as a teenager and has been producing food for her community ever since. The vegetables and pasture-raised eggs from her Soul Fire Farm are delivered directly to doorsteps, with families in low-income urban neighborhoods getting priority.

During the summer, hundreds of city kids visit the farm for a look at where their food comes from and a hands-on chance to help grow it. Leah gives more intensive training to adults in the Black and Latino Farmers Immersion program she created for aspiring and novice farmers. A biology and environmental science teacher, Leah has taken members of her high school class to her ancestral home, Haiti, to work with farmers on a reforestation project.

A 2015 Fulbright award winner, Leah is spending January to June in Mexico researching sustainable farming methods.
Erika Allen
Chicago, IL
Urban Farmer

The acres Erika cultivates are a stone’s throw away from skyscrapers. As Chicago and national projects director for Growing Power—an urban agriculture program her father, Will Allen, founded—she’s planted six thriving small-space farms in the heart of America’s third-largest metropolitan area.

Loaded with experience (she worked in her family’s garden and started a farm stand at age 8), Erika oversees neighborhood farmers markets, greenhouses, a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program and the employment of at-risk youth in food production. Besides bringing affordable food to disadvantaged communities, “urban farming creates a space to connect with nature,” she says.

Danica Patrick
Phoenix, AZ
Race Car Driver

At age 10, small-town girl Danica drove her first race in a parking lot in Roscoe, Illinois, against her sister in go-karts their dad built. Although she crashed into a concrete wall, her passion for a career in motor sports only accelerated.

A contender in both the IndyCar and NASCAR series (she was the first woman to lead laps in the Indianapolis 500 and to win the pole position for the Daytona 500), Danica slows down to acknowledge her fans—including young girls who clamor for autographs and souvenir lug nuts. Her advice to them: “Do not feel like you are less qualified or less competent to do a job because you are different. Let it be about what your potential is.”

Mollie Taylor-Stevenson Jr.
Houston, TX
Rancher/Educator

The matriarch of one of the oldest working black-owned ranches in the U.S., Mollie and her late mother, Mollie Sr., set aside a corner of their property to build the American Cowboy Museum. There, thousands of schoolchildren and other visitors learn about the often overlooked contributions of African-Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans and women to the culture and history of the West.
Severine von Tscharner Fleming
Essex, NY
Farm Coach

Severine doesn’t blush at being called a greenhorn. In fact, The Greenhorns is the name of a documentary she made and the grassroots organization that sprouted from it—both dedicated to recruiting, promoting and supporting a new generation of farmers and ranchers.

Fresh out of college, Severine spent nearly three years touring the U.S., interviewing young farmers for the film that is now being screened internationally. She loves drying herbs at her farm and packing pickles at the local Grange Hall, but spends most of her time brainstorming ways to encourage young startup farmers through everything from a popular blog (thegreenhorns.net), a weekly radio show, guidebooks and personal coaching to fun community mixers and harvest celebrations.

Martine Bourgeois
Saint-Ours, QC
Poultry Pioneer

Take organic eggs, maple syrup and sunflower oil, and you have Martine’s recipe for success. Her diversified operation is one of the most forward-thinking farms in Quebec. What comes first for Martine is what goes into the chickens. She’s a leading poultry nutritionist. The farm she owns with her husband and sister is among the largest producers of organic and omega-3-enriched eggs in Canada. “All of our children have worked in the henhouses, the fields or the maple grove,” she says. “Above all, ours is a family story.”

Susan Cobey
Coupeville, WA
Queen of Bees

An expert in bee genetics and breeding, Susan considers her life’s work enhancing the vitality of North America’s fragile honeybee stock. When she’s not doing research, she’s training beekeepers on how to make their hives thrive. “It’s incredible working with these amazing animals,” she says. “Their ability to democratically make decisions in response to challenges is a lesson to us humans.”

Denise O’Brien
Atlantic, IA
Champion of Women in Ag

Spend one day with Denise, and there’s no question—for many, a woman’s place is on the farm. Besides raising organic produce and poultry for her CSA customers, she’s worked on policy development at the state, national and international levels as co-founder of the Women, Food & Agriculture Network and an agriculture adviser in Afghanistan.

“The majority of the world’s farmers are women, but they maintain a second-class status,” Denise says. “I’d like her legacy to future generations to be ‘an organization that is a safe place for women to share their thoughts, desires and ideas about their role in agriculture, whether it is on the farm or in the boardroom.’”

If you’d like to connect with other farmers, landowners and moms committed to agriculture, join the Women, Food & Agriculture Network at wfan.org.

CRUSADERS
For Sue, farming is like the snack chips made from her family’s potato crop—it’s addictive. She’s currently the president of American Agri-Women, the nation’s largest coalition of farm, ranch and agribusiness women.

Part of a fifth-generation farm, she’s equally at home on Capitol Hill. “We are but one family out of the 2 percent of the U.S. population that provides food and fiber for the other 98 percent,” Sue says. “We grow the most abundant, healthy and affordable food in the world. That’s something I’m proud of.”

**Lynda Hedin**
Clayton, MI
Clean Water Sentinel

Life was quiet on Lynda’s corn and soybean farm until her love for the land blew the barn doors off a serious problem. After noticing runoff from concentrated animal feeding operations was flowing into local waterways, she rallied neighbors to join her downstream taking samples. The data they collected prompted state regulators to issue hundreds of citations for water quality violations.

In 2010, Lynda won the Goldman Environmental Prize for advocating strict enforcement of air and water quality laws and teaching concerned citizens techniques she developed for monitoring pollution.

**Martha Boneta**
Paris, VA
Champion of Farmers’ Rights

When it comes to agriculture, Martha is a lover—and a fighter. The 70 acres where she grows produce, cares for rescued animals and offers agritourism experiences was on the verge of shutting down when county officials ruled she didn’t have proper permits. Hearing she faced stiff fines, fellow farmers and consumers staged a “pitchfork protest,” waving wooden pitchforks at a zoning board meeting.

Martha worked with various farm groups on legislation recommendations. The Boneta Bill, passed last year, protects Virginians’ right to farm from government restrictions. “It is thrilling to witness how America values and wants to protect our nation’s small family farmers,” Martha says.

**Trisha Yearwood**
Owasso, OK
Country Music Artist/Cookbook Author/Volunteer

Whether making Southern-style dishes on the set of her Food Network series or singing her heart out in a recording studio or onstage, Trisha makes herself right at home. The same passion she brings to her multifaceted career is evident in her work to ensure others have a roof over their heads.

Trisha started volunteering with Habitat for Humanity in 2007, working alongside former President Jimmy Carter and his wife, Rosalynn, building homes in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina. Since then, she has signed on for building projects in Haiti, California, her home state of Georgia, and Oklahoma, where she lives with her husband, Garth Brooks.

Happy to don a hard hat, Trisha is no stranger to hammer and nails. (Her father taught her to use both at age 6.) “With Habitat, I’ve done everything from framing walls and windows, hanging Sheetrock and siding to painting, installing hurricane clips and shutters,” she says. “I’ve handled every power tool from a nail gun to a Skilsaw. It’s really fun!”

But what she finds most rewarding about being a volunteer goes far beyond the material. “My favorite part of building with Habitat has been working alongside the homeowner,” Trisha says. “Whether it’s in a housing complex in Los Angeles or a 500-square-foot structure in Haiti ... the common denominator is love. Watching how hard these folks work on their own homes is inspiring.”

Growing up in the rural town of Monticello, Trisha didn’t have to look far for role models. “My mom and dad led by example in our small community,” she says. “They gave back in small ways and big ways. That’s what it’s all about. I think that we are at our best when we’re doing for others.”

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**CRUSADERS**

**VALIANT VOLUNTEERS**

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**Read more from Trisha on our website, countrywomanmagazine.com.**
When Jackie joined the staff of the Missouri AgrAbility Project, she was determined to make life easier for farmers and ranchers with disabilities. She’s done just that by introducing a new breed of farmhand, eager to lend a helping paw.

A farm wife with a love for dogs, Jackie created Pets Helping Agriculture in Rural Missouri. Putting a new twist on the role of service dogs, she supervises the training of canines to do tasks of help to farmers—from retrieving tools and opening latched gates to herding livestock. In its 10th year, the PHARM Dog program is growing, with volunteers signing on as puppy raisers and trainers. For more on the program, visit pharmdog.org.

Want to volunteer with Farm Rescue or apply for assistance? Check out farmrescue.org.

VALIANT VOLUNTEERS

ERMA MCGILL
WAVERLY, NE
Farmer With “Class”
Grain farmer Erma cultivates soybeans, corn, alfalfa and hundreds of young minds as a volunteer for Agriculture in the Classroom.

Every spring, she rolls out the red carpet for a busload of urban fourth-graders she’s adopted and treats them to a day on her working farm. The rest of the school year, she’s a faithful pen pal and visitor, sharing her knowledge of farm life and bags of soy nuts for snacking.

“I love seeing their eyes light up when they understand where their food comes from,” says the busy grandma of eight.

CATHY KING, DVM
FARGO, ND
Veterinarian
Cathy’s passion for animals knows no bounds. A volunteer job treating Mexico’s street dogs inspired her to launch World Vets (worldvets.org), a nonprofit organization that provides free veterinary care to animals on six continents.

With 4,000 volunteers, this sheep rancher’s daughter trains vets in developing nations, helps ranchers as far away as Mongolia fight livestock disease, and also rescues animals after disasters like the 2010 earthquake in Haiti and 2011 tsunami in Japan.

ERIN BARNETT
NERSTAD, MN
Eating-Local Promoter
“Matchmaker” would be an apt title for Erin. The co-founder and director of localharvest.org, she’s committed to connecting people looking for good food with the farmers who grow it.

The website features a national directory of farmers markets, U-picks, farm stands, CSAs, food festivals and ag workshops. The site also includes online shopping, with thousands of mail-order products—apple butter to zucchini bread. “The easier fresh local food is to find and purchase, the more demand will go up,” says Erin. “And the stronger family farms will become!”

REE DRUMMOND
PAWHUSKA, OK
Blogger/Food Writer/Rancher
Ree is well-known to lovers of clever blogs, down-home recipes and wild romances where the cowboy gets the city girl. Her award-winning blog, The Pioneer Woman, and Food Network cooking show of the same name have won her legions of fans who eat up her quirky, down-to-earth anecdotes about life on her family’s cattle ranch.

When not busy helping her husband set fence posts, photographing the rugged Oklahoma landscape or homeschooling her four children, Ree has found time to write best-selling cookbooks and children’s books featuring her droopy-eyed basset hound ranch dog, Charlie. (Check out a CW exclusive interview with Ree at countrywomanmagazine.com/ree.)

SCHAEFER: KASSIDY PAINE; ALLENBRAND: BILL DUNHAM; KING: EMILY FINLEY; MCGILL: NEBRASKA AG IN THE CLASSROOM
BARNETT: TIMMY ZHU; DRUMMOND: LADD DRUMMOND
FARM VOICES

Pam Jahnke
Madison, WI
Farm Broadcaster

For 25 years, Pam (aka the Fabulous Farm Babe) has been a resounding voice for agriculture. Her radio broadcasts keep farmers company during pre-sunrise chores, covering everything farm-related, whether it's commodity prices or the latest models of combines.

A recipient of the Farm Broadcaster of the Year Award, Pam loves meeting listeners, from moms in grocery stores to musk oxen researchers in Alaska. In her spare time, she's a partner in her family's fourth-generation farm and participates in tractor parades aboard a 1963 Case 500 Diesel she and her dad restored.

Mary Blackmon
Atlanta, GA
Accidental Farmer

As a health spa expert, Mary knew more about manicures than getting her hands dirty. That all changed seven years ago when she learned her family farm was about to be sold and she left her big-city career behind to save it.

Encounters with other farmers prompted Mary to call on her media experience to launch farmstarliving.com. She's now growing both crops and her ag-based website. “The site brings farming to the mainstream in a fun, accessible way,” she says. It includes lists of farm-to-table restaurants, rural B&Bs, farm tours, agriculture internships and up-close interviews with farmers and ranchers.
**Marilyn Adams**  
**Farm Safety Educator**  
Earlham, IA

As life-giving as farming is, it’s also a dangerous occupation. No one knows that better than Marilyn, who lost her 11-year-old son, Keith, in a harvest accident. A year later, she founded a nonprofit organization dedicated to keeping other rural children safe from harm.

Farm Safety For Just Kids has come a long way since its beginnings nearly 30 years ago in a spare bedroom of Marilyn’s family farmhouse. Today, it has more than 110 volunteer chapters in the U.S. and Canada that provide presentations and educational materials, teaching youngsters how to be safe around livestock, chemicals, farm equipment and more.

“I’m not sure how somebody like me—a typical farm wife, mother and Sunday school teacher—pulled this together,” Marilyn says. “I just knew I had to do something. And I see Keith’s spirit in all the children this organization touches.”

**Cmdr. Molly Boron**  
**Patuxent River, MD**  
**Navy Pilot**

How does a grounded Midwestern girl from a line of farmers end up flying the Navy’s premier long-range submarine-hunting aircraft? For Molly, her country values were the ideal launching pad.

“Contributing to a cause greater than myself, not shying away from responsibility and learning the power of teamwork brought me to where I am today,” she says.

Her military career has seen her catapulting planes off the deck of an aircraft carrier and commanding a squadron of maritime patrol aircraft over the oceans.

“Being a Navy pilot has allowed me to enjoy the outdoors from a different perspective,” says Molly, a born nature lover. “I’ve viewed Mother Earth from 30,000 feet over several continents.”

**Sandra Day O’Connor**  
**Phoenix, AZ**  
**Associate Justice of the Supreme Court (retired)**

For 24 years, Justice O’Connor was a pioneer in the U.S. Supreme Court, serving as its first female justice. Long before she weighed in on landmark cases, “I grew up on a remote cattle ranch in Arizona and New Mexico,” she says. “Our close companions were our parents and the few cowboys we had.

“I learned to expect to work hard, to contribute to the well-being of the family, to be self-reliant and independent in my work, to be open and honest with all people, and to have a good sense of humor to sustain me in tough situations.”

**Krysta Harden**  
**Washington, DC**  
**Deputy Secretary of Agriculture**

Coming from three generations of peanut growers, Krysta has agricultural roots that run deep. While she values her heritage, her eyes are focused on the future of farming, particularly women’s role in it.

Less about muscle power and more about technology, “agriculture is now a place that can embrace young women,” Krysta says. “They’re coming out of business schools, science and marketing backgrounds and coming back to the farm.”

A favorite part of her job is touring diverse farms and ranches, and on every visit she makes sure to talk to women. “I want to see they get the recognition and assistance they need,” Krysta says.

“I would encourage any woman who’s interested in agriculture—don’t put that passion aside. Follow through.” She recommends starting at usda.gov/newfarmers.

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Deborah Butterfield  
Bozeman, MT  
Artist/Sculptor

Being born on the Kentucky Derby’s 75th anniversary was a sign where Deborah’s career track would lead. The respected artist and lifelong horsewoman creates sculptures of horses showcased in museums, sculpture parks and private collections around the world.

An environmentalist, Deborah has formed equines from wood, mud, sticks and even scrap metal. Bronze is her primary medium today. Her herd includes tabletop pieces and larger-than-life sculptures weighing more than a ton. Instead of traditional warhorses, Deborah’s steeds are often mares caught calmly grazing or lying down. She gets fresh inspiration while riding and tending to the horses on her family’s ranch.

Loretta Lynn  
Nashville, TN  
Country Music Legend

Now celebrating her 55th year in show business, Loretta broke ground for female singer/songwriters with a body of music that shoots straight from the heart and the hip. The self-made star journeyed from a hardscrabble but loving upbringing in the coal-mining country of Kentucky to the stage of the Grand Ole Opry, winning the admiration of pop, rock and country music fans along the way.

“To make it in this business, you either have to be first, great or different,” she says. “I was the first to go into Nashville singing it like the women lived it.” With multiple gold albums and a place in the Country Music and Songwriters Halls of Fame, Loretta says of her success, “I have been lucky, and I am a hard worker. To this day I give 100 percent to my fans and in return, they have fed me and my kids for over 50 years. I have been blessed, and I don’t forget it.”

Louisiana Bendolph  
Mobile, AL  
Artist/Quilter

As a child, Louisiana would play under her great-grandmother’s quilts. Forty years later, in 2002, she attended a museum exhibit showcasing the handiwork of the women of her hometown, Gee’s Bend, Alabama. “Visions of their quilts wouldn’t leave me alone,” she says. “I had to carry on the tradition” dating back to the 1800s.

Not only did she start stitching in the Gee’s Bend style—a blend of traditional African-American quilts, the geometric simplicity of Amish quilts and modern art—she became its spokeswoman, traveling with the exhibit across the country.

“I’m happy people call it art—but for me, it’s something given from generations past and the freedom to do it my way,” says Louisiana. Now, her granddaughter is showing interest in quilting, designing patterns on the computer.

See some of the female farmers Audra has captured on page 53 and at audramulkern.com.
Cristen Breuer
Burnsville, MN
Pet Toy Inventor
Ask Cristen how she got pulled into the pet toy industry, and she’ll credit her dairy heritage. Cristen made a dog toy out of recycled milking tubes after stumbling on a box of them, destined for the trash, on her parents’ farm.
“It triggered memories of how much our farm dogs loved chewing on this dairy cow-scented rubber,” she says. “After months of brainstorming, my husband, Dan, and I designed Mootugs (www.mootugs.com)—sanitized, eco-friendly pull toys. Dairy farmers provide our raw material.” A quarter of the profits goes to animal rescue organizations and shelters.

Alicia Overby
Cambridge, MN
Inventor/Montrepreneur
Her own colicky baby was the mother of Alicia’s invention—a supportive infant headrest she designed, sewed and home tested. Soon, she was CEO of Baby Elephant Ears (babyelephantears.com), with headquarters in a barn on her family’s rural acreage.

In 2014, her venture was honored by the U.S. Small Business Administration as Exporter of the Year, selling its Midwest-made products in more than 850 U.S. locations and a dozen foreign countries. “Being a country woman, my roots are deep in resourcefulness,” says Alicia. “That has served me well in life and in business.”

Nell Newman
Santa Cruz, CA
President, Newman’s Own Organics
The way to Nell’s groundbreaking organic food business was literally through her father’s stomach. “Pop’s idea of organic was nut loaf with yeast gravy,” recalls the daughter of actors Paul Newman and Joanne Woodward. To change his opinion, she made the family’s traditional Thanksgiving dinner with all the trimmings. “After he’d wiped his plate clean, I told him I’d used organic ingredients—and he knew he’d been had.”

Providing seed money for Newman’s Own Organics was a sound investment. Nell not only paid her father back, she turned what had been a division of his food business into an independent company that contributes to the millions the Newman’s Own Foundation gives to charitable organizations.

When she’s not dreaming up new products to add to her line of organic snacks and pet food, Nell might be speaking at a conference on sustainable agriculture, working at home in her raised-bed vegetable garden or raiding the backyard chicken coop she set up for her organically fed hens. “Their eggs are the best for baking,” she says.

“Our family always made a point of cooking and eating together. Meals were our special ritual.”

Designing Women
Yoakum, TX
Ranch Fashionistas
Rural Texas may be many country miles from the New York fashion scene, but that hasn’t stopped the talented gals at Double D Ranch from filling women’s closets nationwide with their own brand of Southwestern style. Sisters Cheryl McMullen and Audrey Frazier started making coats with Native American blanket motifs to earn money for a fun vacation. With the support of their late father, Doug, their mom, Margie, and sister Hedy, they turned those coat orders into a family business featuring their brand of cowgirl cool—tops, skirts, dresses, boots and home decor included.

Check out their latest collection at ddranchwear.com.
VIVIAN HOWARD
KINSTON, NC
Farm-to-Fork Chef

Vivian cut her culinary teeth cooking in the finest eateries of New York City. But when it came time to open her own restaurant, she chose “the middle of nowhere,” 15 minutes from the farm where she grew up.

Nowadays, Chef & the Farmer is a destination restaurant with a menu that celebrates local ingredients and the people who grow them. This mission inspired A Chef’s Life, a PBS series in which Vivian explores regional food traditions and the ups and downs of life as a wife, mother of toddler twins and rural restaurateur.

MARISA MCCLELLAN
PHILADELPHIA, PA
Canning Ambassador

A popular food writer, cookbook author and canning teacher, Marisa has a passion for preserving that she can’t keep a lid on. Through her blog Food in Jars (foodinjars.com), she’s introducing a new generation to the joys of putting up the season’s bounty—giving the old-fashioned tradition a fun, modern spin.

Read more about Marisa and get her tips for hosting a canning party at countrywomanmagazine/canning-party.

LEANNE BROWN
EDMONTON, AB
Budget Cooking Expert

Imagine a gourmet cookbook for people on a $4-a-day food budget. Not only did Leanne write it, she offered it free to those who need it the most. See how she did it on page 10.
**HONORING THE PAST**

**Susanne Ashworth**  
West Sacramento, CA  
*Seed Saver*

Susanne has plenty of ideas germinating on how to nurture the earth. “Much of our history is inside seeds,” she says from her ranch, Del Rio Botanical. If we don’t grow them, she adds, “they become extinct, just like dinosaurs.”

The rare, heirloom and native vegetables, fruits and herbs Suzanne raises are highly prized by restaurant chefs and home cooks. She also wrote the definitive book on seed saving, *Seed to Seed.*

**Katrina Poe, MD**  
French Camp, MS  
*Country Doctor*

Think house calls are a thing of the past? Not in Katrina’s hometown. After medical school, she returned to tiny Kilmichael, Mississippi, as it was about to lose its only physician, and opened a new clinic in 2001.

The youngest person to receive the national Country Doctor of the Year award, Katrina says, “I’m honored that people look to me to take care of them.” Sometimes, she adds, “that includes the family pets!”

**Nacole Walker**  
Fort Yates, ND  
*Native Language Educator*

She may be part of the text-message generation, but Nacole is tuned in to the voices of her ancestors. A member of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, the Dartmouth College graduate is committed to preserving the Lakota language.

Nacole works as a teacher with her tribe’s language revitalization program. “My dream is to hear children speaking their native language in their schools and their homes,” she says, “free from fear or embarrassment ... free to be who they are—Lakota.”

**Jeanette Beranger**  
Siler City, NC  
*Livestock Historian*

During her early career as a zookeeper, Jeannette preferred the farm exhibit over the exotic animals. Today she works for the Livestock Conservancy, dedicated to saving nearly 200 breeds of livestock and poultry, some with bloodlines centuries old.

By assisting people interested in raising heritage breeds, “we’re protecting the future of American agriculture,” says Jeannette, who raises endangered chickens and horses on her own family’s farm.

**Morgan Serventi**  
Page, AZ  
*Budding Environmentalist*

After years of raising steers and sheep, it’s only natural that Morgan (above, in pink top) earned the prestigious Girl Scout Gold Award with a project she called “The Power of Poo.” The science-minded college freshman designed a simple, inexpensive biodigester to convert manure into methane gas. On a church mission trip to Kenya, Morgan showed village women how to build biodigesters to make fuel for heat, light, cooking and water purification “all while cleaning up the environment,” she says.

**Jennifer Sirangelo**  
Chevy Chase, MD  
*4-H President*

Jennifer uses head, hands, heart and health to perform her job as president of the National 4-H Council—the first female CEO of the organization in more than 100 years.

The Missouri native is aunt to two enthusiastic 4-H’ers and a steadfast believer in the power of young people to change the world.

**Maggie Roth**  
Holcomb, KS  
*FFA All-Star*

Maggie is tickled pink about her FFA project. The 17-year-old grows pink Porcelain Doll pumpkins to raise breast cancer awareness and money for a cure.

Working with the Pink Pumpkin Patch Foundation, the high school junior recruited other FFA officers to think pink. Now some 60 chapters are producing and selling the hybrid pumpkins to aid cancer research. “By the end of my senior year, I hope to have chapters in all 50 states involved,” says the enterprising farm girl.