

## Travel Agency Sponsors County's 33<sup>rd</sup> Barn Quilt

Julie Bartz, owner of First Class Travel in Shawano, sponsored Shawano County's 33<sup>rd</sup> barn quilt. The pattern, called "Carpenter's Wheel," is on a barn owned by Wayne Bartz at N4043 State Highway 22, Shawano.

"We picked Wayne's barn for our barn quilt because it is on one of the best kept farms in our area and because he is a cousin to my father-in-law," Julie said.

The original 118-acre farm has been in the Bartz family since 1942 when Wayne's parents, George and Viola, took it over. The barn the quilt is on was built in the early 1900s. Wayne and his wife Geraldine, who died unexpectedly in March, have three sons, Al, Ron and Tom. Tom works with Wayne on the farm, where they have a dairy herd of 70 Holstein cows. Their second farm across the road was purchased by Wayne from Oliver Schulke 35 years ago. Totaling 140 acres, it is where Bartz raises his dairy heifers.

Julie Bartz said that even though First Class Travel loves sending people on vacations around the world, the company knows one of the best destinations is Shawano. "We're excited for tourists to visit and see why we love our area so much – the countryside, the history, the food and, of course, the people," she said. "Now the barn quilt project will give Shawano that 'something extra' we hope will bring even more visitors to our beautiful neck of the woods."