

## **Multi-colored “Fan” is County’s 61st Barn Quilt**

Ken Matyas, owner of Belle Plaine Pinzgauers at N3876 State Highway 22, a few miles south of Shawano, has sponsored his second and Shawano County’s 61st barn quilt. The quilt pattern is called “Grandmother’s Fan.”

“When I first saw a barn quilt on a neighbor’s barn, I thought it was a nice way to pay tribute to the old barns in Shawano County,” Matyas said. He bought the farm from Gordy Sorenson in 2001 and plans to restore the barn, which was built around 1900.

The first quilt Matyas sponsored promotes the beef breed called Pinzgauer, a relatively new breed to the U.S., which originated in Austria. At first, Matyas raised Holstein steers, but then decided to raise ‘beefers’. He bought a mixed collection of beef breeds, including his first two Pinzgauer heifers, and a bull. He now has nearly 20 full-blood Pinzgauer cattle and sells semen and beef from his herd.