

Birling Quilt is County's 147th

Terry and Brenda Birling's dairy farm at W9756 Apple Road, Clintonville, might well be the county's most meticulously kept up farm in Shawano County. The Birlings take great pride in making sure their farm is one they can be proud of and that consumers who drive by can appreciate as a modern dairy operation.

The Birlings' house and farm buildings are all white with a black trim. "We always wanted something on our barn," Brenda said, "and when we started seeing the barn quilts on other barns, we knew that's what we wanted on ours."

The Birlings' quilt is called "Geometric Cross" and is painted in black, gray and white to complement the color scheme on their farm. They worked with barn quilt project coordinator Jim Leuenberger to come up with the design. It is the county's 147th barn quilt and was painted by the Shawano County barn quilt committee

The Birlings' have four sons, Joshua, Jacob, Ethan and Jordan, and two daughters, Brittany and Nicole. Nicole and her husband, John Zabel, have a son, Brenan. The dairy operation includes a milking herd of 140 Holsteins and 283 acres of cropland. Terry and Brenda got married and moved to the farm in 1983 and have lived there ever since. Terry's parents, Ted and Dorothy Birling, were the previous owners.

Over the past 30 years, many improvements have been made on the farm. In 2000, the Birling farm was the host for Shawano County's "Brunch on the Farm."

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