

## Merry Kite is Pattern for County's 171<sup>st</sup> Barn Quilt

Shawano County's 171<sup>st</sup> barn quilt is now on display on a barn at W16422 County M, Tigerton. The farm was recently purchased by Greg and Linda Wincentsen, who plan to move to the farm once they sell the small farm they now live on between Birnamwood and Aniwa. The quilt pattern they chose is called Merry Kite and was painted by the Shawano County barn quilt committee.

"Ever since the barn quilt project started, I knew I wanted one," Linda said. "Then, when I mentioned it to our daughter, Jen (Carlson), she said the Woven Hearts Quilt Guild of Tigerton wanted to sponsor four quilts. I was thrilled when they asked if they could sponsor one for us. I am just overjoyed with how beautiful the quilt looks." Linda has been a quilter and did a lot of quilting when their four children were young. Once they move to their new place, she hopes to get back into quilting and plans to do a quilt to match their barn quilt.

The Quilt Guild organized many quilt shows over the years and accumulated some money from various events. When the Guild basically disbanded, several of the members talked about what they should do with the money and decided to sponsor four barn quilts as part of the Shawano County barn quilt project. "We just think the barn quilt project is so special for Shawano County and are happy and excited to be part of it," Kim Nero said.

The farm was started by P.A. Hahn in 1924, when the barn was built. Later the farm was owned by Elmer Neubauer, then Edward Minniecheske, followed by Jeff Hauser, from whom Greg and Linda bought it a couple months ago. Both Greg and Linda have farmed and may raise calves on the farm once they move there. Hauser has been raising as many as 200 calves for local farmers already, so it wouldn't be much of a transition for the Wincentsens to do so as well.

The Wincentsen quilt was put up by LeRoy Raddant and Bruce Teetzen of Raddant Electric in Shawano.

Anyone who would like to participate in Shawano County's barn quilt project can contact project coordinator Jim Leuenberger at 715-524-5685 or by email at [jamesmleuenberger@yahoo.com](mailto:jamesmleuenberger@yahoo.com). You can also contact Patti Peterson, tourism manager at the Shawano Chamber of Commerce at 715-524-2139 or [tourism@shawano.com](mailto:tourism@shawano.com). A link on the Shawano Chamber Web site includes photos and information on every barn quilt on display in Shawano County. Just go to [www.shawanocountry.com](http://www.shawanocountry.com) and click on the barn quilt icon.

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