

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Butterfly is Feature of County's 336th Barn Quilt

Shawano County's 336th barn quilt is now on display on a barn at N6808 Balsam Row Road, a few miles north of Shawano. The beautiful quilt pattern is called Geometric Butterfly.

The barn, owned by Neil and Eileen Strauss, is on land they purchased from Clarence Sturgul, a well-known realtor and auctioneer, about 20 years ago. Sturgul had a beef herd of Hereford cattle. Earlier owners of the farm were Michael Wallrich and family, who had a Holstein dairy herd. Sturgul quit raising cattle in 1957 when the current highway 47-55 was constructed and divided the farm. Old highway 47-55 is now Balsam Row Road.

Neil and Eileen's son, Rick, farms with his dad. His wife, Carolyn, also helps with the milking. Their children, Katie and Nash, also work on the farm and are interested in farming in the future.

The quilt was sponsored by Paul and Linda Siegmann of Green Bay. "On our travels between Green Bay and Wausau, we have enjoyed viewing the beautiful barn quilts along highway 29 and wanted to contribute to this great project," Paul said. "Linda loves butterflies because they remind us of the resurrection, so we thought a butterfly design would be a great addition to the collection of Shawano County barn quilts."

The Siegmanns sponsored the quilt in honor of their parents, Rose and Robert Theis and Phyllis and Andrew Siegmann, as well as their daughter, Elisa, who died in April 2022.

Len and Judy Pubanz, who have lived on Balsam Row Road since 1968, enjoy taking walks and always go past the barn where the quilt is now displayed. "We enjoy walking," Len said, "but now it will be even more fun because we will get to see this beautiful butterfly quilt every day."

The quilt was painted by the Shawano County barn quilt committee and was put on display by LeRoy and Keith Raddant of Raddant Electric in Shawano.

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Photo Caption (Photo by Jim Leuenberger)

Shown with Shawano County's 336th barn quilt are, from left, Linda and Paul Siegmann, sponsors of the quilt, and at right, Neil and Eileen Strauss on whose barn the quilt is displayed.