Inspiration is Theme of County's 368th Barn Quilt

Connie and Mike Rohloff have sponsored Shawano County's 368th barn quilt. Named Inspiration from Within, it is on display on a recently built workshop at N3992 Green Valley Road, Pulaski, where Connie will work on a multitude of projects to sell in stores and online for her company, CR Inspirations. "The quilt design was chosen to represent the inspiration and ideas that dwell in all of us," Connie said.

The workshop was built on an old alfalfa field that Mike and Connie purchased from her parents, Roger and Emily Neumann, in 2002, shortly after they got married. Looking further back, the land was sold by the State of Wisconsin to Shawano County in 1880. In 1890, Anton Marszelski purchased the land and it remained in their family for 74 years. From there it was owned by Anderson (1964-68) and Matczak (1968-77) families before Connie's parents purchased the land in 1977.

Inside Connie's new workshop are plenty of reminders of their agricultural pasts, as both Connie and Mike grew up on dairy farms and remain active in the dairy industry to this day. The inside walls of the workshop are decorated with barn boards from Connie's parents' barn, which was damaged by a tornado in 2017. There are also several old farm antiques that line the walls of the workshop. Connie enjoys working with barn boards and other farm type antiques, which is the focal point of her business. "Special thanks to Danny's Carpentry for their fine work in constructing the workshop," Connie said.

Mike and Connie have a son, Bryce, who will be a high school senior, and a daughter, McKenna, who will be a freshman at Pulaski High School. Mike works with dairy farmers and veterinarians at Boehringer Ingelheim Animal Health and Connie milks cows part-time at a local dairy farm.

The Rohloff barn quilt was painted by the Shawano County barn quilt committee and was put on display by LeRoy Raddant and his grandson, Keenan, both of whom work for Raddant Electric in Shawano.

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