

Tom and Donna Swiecichowski Sponsor 43rd Barn Quilt

Tom and Donna Swiecichowski, N3126 Willow Road, Pulaski, have sponsored Shawano County's 43rd barn quilt as part of the countywide project that was started a little over a year ago. The pattern they chose is called "Star Bound," and the colors they chose have very special meaning to their family. Purple is for Donna's niece, Bobbi Jean, who died in 2001 at the age of 18 from melanoma skin cancer. Orange is for one of Tom and Donna's twins' best friends, Brent, who died in June 2010. Orange was his favorite color.

"When deciding on a pattern, we wanted something with dimension and we wanted to put it on point," Donna said. "This pattern works great for both aspects."

Tom and Donna purchased their farm 22 years ago. They raise registered Simmental beef cattle and show them all over the country. Tom is a hoof trimmer and Donna a photographic artist and owner of Spruce-Air Portrait Design and Gallery. Their son T.J., 22, will graduate from UW-River Falls in December with an Animal Science major/Meat Animal emphasis, along with Dairy Science and Ag Business minors. Twins Oakley and Morgan, 18, will be off to school this fall. Oakley is employed at Robinson Sheet Metal and will attend NWTC while Morgan is headed to Blackhawk East College in Kewaunee, Ill. to pursue a career in agriculture.

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