

V. I. P. Award is awarded to an individual or couple (any two people) non-fair board member/non-committee member, no specific length of service required.

### **V.I.P. AWARD: District 1**

The V.I.P. Award is presented to Hannah Holdaway and Emma Klumpp (sisters) at the Florence County Fair. Hannah and Emma are always willing to do a job, no matter what that job is.



These two young ladies work between 16-18 hour shifts every day for five days. They have learned a lot by helping in the office with exhibit registration and judging, along with planning and implementing special entry contests. And they still find the time to exhibit! Between the two of them they have got dozens of new exhibitors to enter and hundreds of new guests to attend the fair. Their love for the fair is contagious, and they enjoy going to other fairs to see what can be implemented at our fair. Congratulations Hannah and Emma!

## V.I.P. AWARD: District 2

The V.I.P. Award is presented to Rita Palewicz and Dennis Hurtis at the St. Croix County Fair. Rita and Dennis are both grounds managers and Rita is an open class superintendent for flowers and houseplants. Together Rita and Dennis are the eyes, ears, and unofficial caretakers of our grounds. Rita fills over 30 containers and window boxes with donated plants before the fair. She embraces the fair theme too by creating unique designs and clever arrangements in and around the buildings. Dennis not only maintains the grounds, but he helps behind the scenes with security, moving bleachers, parking, and is “on call” for whatever needs to be done. He also makes himself available for non-fair event organizers and outside vendors. Both are instrumental in having our fairgrounds attractive and well-kept. Congratulations Rita and Dennis!



## V.I.P. AWARD: District 3

The V.I.P. Award is presented to Bryce Berger of the Lodi Ag Fair. Bryce has been Chief of Security for 21 years at the Lodi Ag Fair. He helped create the Emergency Evacuation Plan and assisted with a Med-Flight emergency. He built a team with local EMS, Fire and Police, and implemented the chain link fence around the beer garden. From his resignation letter, he wrote, “When I first started 20 some years ago, things were way different, but just like everything, the fair adjusted and so did our safety for everyone, and being involved in the fair changed. I am a huge believer in letting people enjoy the fair yet keeping peace and order. I am proud to say I was part of something so special over the years.” Congratulation Bryce!



## V.I.P. AWARD: District 4



The V.I.P. Award is presented to Bob and Anne Oelke of the Dodge County Fair. Bob and Anne are volunteers that are dedicated, enthusiastic, and have been very involved for over 35 years. Both are superintendents that go above and beyond. They work closely with other junior and open class superintendents and volunteers to get the buildings ready for exhibits. This includes designing, building, and maintaining display units, along with getting all the displays out and putting them away after the fair. They were also involved in updating the fair book and coordinated the construction of the new office in the Youth Building. Throughout their involvement with exhibits over the years, they have always stressed the importance of education through exhibiting. Congratulations Bob and Anne!