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## LON & KATHY TONNESON CENTRAL PLAINS DAIRY FOUNDATION DAIRY LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

The Lon & Kathy Tonneson Dairy Leadership Scholarship was established in 2019 by Tracey and Brian Erickson of Arlington, SD to honor Lon and Kathy for their years of dedication to growing agriculture and the dairy industry. Erickson Farms pledged to fund the \$500 scholarship for 10 years.

Lon and Kathy Tonneson served as coordinators of the Central Plains Dairy Association and Central Plains Dairy Expo for 18 years.

The Expo has grown to be one of the biggest all-dairy trade shows and expositions after World Dairy Expo in Madison, Wisconsin and World Ag Expo in Tulare, California.

The Tonnesons emphasize that the Expo's volunteer board members over the past 18 years deserve credit for the success of the Expo.

"They had the vision and the ideas. We always tried to say, "Yes, we can!" whenever they proposed something that would help bring dairy producers and industry members together," Kathy Tonneson said.

The Tonneson Scholarship will be awarded annually to a student who has successfully completed the at least one semester enrolled in a post-secondary college or university (2- or 4-year program), pursuing a degree in Agriculture with emphasis in Ag Communication and/or Leadership. Preference will be given to applicants in South Dakota, Nebraska, Iowa, Minnesota or North Dakota (I-29 Corridor).

The deadline to apply for the Lon & Kathy Tonneson Dairy Leadership Scholarship is December 6, 2019. Download the scholarship application by **clicking here**.

Please contact the Central Plains Dairy Foundation for additional information at 605-412-4008 or [foundation@centralplainsdairyexpo.com](mailto:foundation@centralplainsdairyexpo.com).