

## LENZMEIER IS A STRONG LEADER FOR AGRICULTURE

Chuck Uphoff  
New Munich

I have known Leigh Lenzmeier for the past ten years. Leigh understands the importance of agriculture in Stearns County. He not only understands the value of the dairy, livestock, poultry, and cropping industries for area farmers. He also realizes the economic value that agriculture has in rural communities and all of Stearns County.

Lenzmeier worked diligently to help in the structuring the Dairy Advisory Committee. This committee is still a strong voice for the dairy industry and all of agriculture in Stearns County. Commissioner Lenzmeier, along with committee members, worked on new planning and zoning regulations. The main focus was the preservation of agricultural land in Stearns County for now and future generations.

Commissioner Lenzmeier stays in touch with agriculture by attending various field days throughout the year. This past summer he attended a organic field day, which discussed issues in organic farming and how this type of farming benefits the environment, a wildlife on working lands field day, plus he spent time at the Jerry and Linda Jennissen farm to learn more about their anaerobic manure digester. These are just a few ways that shows he's commitment towards agriculture.

In 2004 Leigh Lenzmeier was selected to the Minnesota Agriculture and Rural Leadership (MARL) Program.

The mission of MARL is to develop the skills of Minnesota agricultural and rural leaders so they may maximize their impact and effectiveness in local, state, national, and international arenas.

In the MARL program, Commissioner Lenzmeier studied Natural Resources and the Environment, Rural Industry and Trade, Communities – Big and Small, and Rural America's Future.

Commissioner Lenzmeier will continue to be a strong advocate for rural Stearns County. He has the experience and knowledge to keep us moving in the right direction.