

'It was a perfect fit'

Lakeview's Tanner Carr is pursuing a degree in Agricultural Operations at MCC

By Renae Gould

Farming is a way of life for Tanner Carr.

It also brought him to Montcalm Community College to pursue a degree in Agricultural Operations, offered in partnership with the Michigan State University Institute of Agricultural Technology (MSU-IAT).

"It was a perfect fit for the career path I was choosing to continue," said the 20-year-old from Lakeview.

Carr works on his family's cash crop farm, which was established in 1879. They grow about 2,500 acres of corn, soybeans, wheat, peas, and sweet corn in Montcalm and Mecosta Counties.

"I am 6th generation, and I started working regularly at the age of 14," he said. "My favorite part about farming is the management aspect. I enjoy overseeing the tasks and making the logistics flow to complete every task. In addition, I enjoy seeing the crop finish to maturity and being harvested. At this point, we can evaluate the year and the work that was done to get to this point."

Carr is also a member of MCC's Ag Club, which is open to all students interested in plant, animal and environmental science. The club offers students educational, professional, charitable and social activities to further enhance the leadership and technical skills necessary for personal growth, career success and community service.

"The Ag Club is a great entity," he said. "It is nice to gather with people that all care about agriculture and want to give back to the community. My favorite part is being able to plant items in our greenhouse."

Ag Club Adviser Brian Gardner said Carr is always looking for experiences that will help him on his farm.

"He's a good person," Gardner said. "He helps others around him. He wants to take a drone class through MSU and he wants to take Spanish to help out on the farm. This summer, he brought a bunch of sweet corn from the farm in and cooked it for Ag Club."

Carr is also active in Montcalm County Farm Bureau and serves as an elected member of the Board of Directors.

"I enjoy being a member on the Farm Bureau board, because it allows me to expand my knowledge of other commodities or livestock in the county," he said. "I like to hear issues one grower may be experiencing and be able to talk amongst ourselves for a potential solution."

In his spare time, he enjoys hunting, specifically in Wyoming and the surrounding states out west. He is also a firefighter with the Lakeview District Fire Department. ■

For more information:

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