



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
FOND DU LAC COUNTY

Programming Highlights

December 2019 - January 2020

*We teach, learn, lead and serve, connecting people with the University of Wisconsin,
and engaging with them in transforming lives and communities.*

Food Safety, Security & Health

- “Trying new foods” was a frequent topic taught in December for the FoodWise program. Melanie Phillips and Pamela Nelson taught **390 students** in Head Start classrooms and 2nd grade classrooms in Fond du Lac County. The Head Start students (ages 3-5) practiced using their **five senses** when trying a new food. Each student sampled cauliflower and red bell pepper. The 2nd grade students were challenged to **try one new food** before their next FoodWise lesson in January. Trying new foods can be fun!
- Amanda Miller is a member of the Agnesian HealthCare/SSM **Population Health Group**. The group is currently planning focus groups with underserved and diverse audiences in Fond du Lac County which will be held mid 2020.
- The Fond du Lac/Sheboygan FoodWise Program is participating in a state and nationwide pilot of the **Cooking Matters** curriculum. The pilot is separated into two sections: fall and spring. The FoodWise team is currently ‘wrapping up’ the fall pilot efforts, while also planning the spring pilot efforts. Nutrition Educators have provided their feedback on the curriculum to state and national staff via phone calls and evaluations.
- Miller is a member of the **Food for Thought Committee**. This is the group that oversees the Fondy Food Pantry weekend backpack food program that serves approximately 650 children in the Fond du Lac School District. The group paused on meeting for quite a few months and will reconvene in December.
- In October, Miller was asked to present on food insecurity to 3rd-5th graders at the **Fond du Lac STEM Academy**. As a result, students were asked to create an innovative solution to addressing hunger using STEM principles. Parents and guest speakers were invited to learn about these ideas during student presentations on December 16.

- Miller is a member of the **Living Well FDL** obesity and physical activity health coalition. The group meets bi-monthly. Most recently, the group discussed progress of community health improvement plan goals related to fruit and vegetable consumption, physical activity, and breastfeeding efforts.
- Miller has been busy **planning meetings** with FoodWise partners, which will help jump start programming in the new year.

Thriving Youth, Families, Organizations & Communities

- Tina Kohlman became a trained facilitator for “**Taking Care of You**”, offered by extension human development and relationship educators. Kohlman will be incorporating many of the topics and materials in her work in supporting farmers during challenging times.
- Diana Hammer convened **two meetings with leaders of Latinos Unidos**. At the first, they considered a proposal from the United Methodist Church to hire an individual in the Fond du Lac area. The second was a workshop with admissions representatives from MPTC and UWO. 27 adults and students attended to ask questions about financial aid, admissions, and immigration status. The workshop was live-streamed on the Facebook group which now has 1055 followers.
- Tracy Keifenheim continues to support the growth of a new club in North Fond du Lac, **4-H Los Aviones Internacionales**. This club is expanding access to underserved populations in the North Fond du Lac area. The club has had two more meeting and served about 55 youth and several parents. The second meeting was focused on the culture of Spain and Chile and hosted two guest speakers. The third meeting focused on the tradition of Piñatas and youth learned how to create handmade Piñatas.
- Keifenheim has worked with **several planning committees** which included New Horizons, Creative Arts Festival, and Family Learning Day. Creative Arts Festival and Family Learning Day, two county-wide events, are open to 4-H youth as well as community participants.
- Keifenheim also worked with Jayna Hintz, Ozaukee County 4-H Program Coordinator, to collaborate on camp training and planning for the **2020 Summer 4-H Camp**.
- Keifenheim held **several professional development trainings** such as educational technology, leading effective meetings with Parliamentary Procedures, and Inclusive Volunteerism: Welcoming & Engaging New Audiences.
- Keifenheim continues to visit local 4-H clubs in the county to continue with needs assessments.

- Ron Jakubisin met with FDL HS Principal Steinbarth to promote **Youth In Governance programming**. Principal Steinbarth and Superintendent Sebert are enthusiastic and supportive of allowing Extension to engage youth via promotion and classroom visit.
- Jakubisin met with FDL City Council members Giles and Degner separately to discuss schedule of promotion and training starting in January.
- Jakubisin will sit on the **Envision Greater Fond du Lac Lemonade Day committee** which began meeting in December for planning of the May city wide event.
- **Co-Parenting** court mandated classes for 36 divorcing parents were co-taught by Shelley Tidemann in November. Thirty eight children were involved with these 36 parents.
- **Just in Time Parenting age paced newsletter** partnership continues. Tidemann continues to serve on the National Just In Time Review Board to assist with the national use of the age paced newsletter.
- Tidemann co-facilitated with the Train The Trainer **Taking Care of You** Curriculum in Winnebago County. Twenty six professionals representing various organizations/agencies throughout the Fox Valley were trained to conduct the Taking Care of You curriculum. Tidemann was the Professional Development offering for the Fond du Lac City Library staff using the Taking Care of You Curriculum, focused on stress management and mindfulness. Twenty individuals were in attendance.
- Tidemann continues with Waupun City Aging Coalition Committee, **HealthyAging in Rural Towns (HeART) grant**. Tidemann is preparing educational offerings for the subcommittee to consider along with the larger steering committee when they meet in December.
- **Caring Kids Facebook** posts bi-weekly in two languages, started in September by Tidemann, continues with additional parenting education information located on the UWEX Website for readers.
- Tidemann continues educational classes for single parents (ages 14 - 19) with **Youth for Christ**. December's session on basic budgeting was attended by 10 individuals.

Stronger Economies

- Hammer attended the WI Policy Forum luncheon in Milwaukee to learn about the struggle to redevelop Century City with Extension colleagues and Milwaukee City and County stakeholders who also work on **entrepreneurship**.

- Hammer, Mia Ljung (Extension in Outagamie & Winnebago Counties) and former Fit Oshkosh Research Assistant Rajon Hall gave [an interview on WHBY](#) about the **interviews with African American business owners**. (20 min.)
- Hammer taught the **Going Solo business simulation** to three classes at Laconia High School in Rosendale. Through the game, students learn pricing, fixed costs, variable costs, and how to cope with elements of chance to recreate a real-life business environment.
- Tidemann has renewed the **Rent Smart** budgeting classes with Forward Services and these will begin again after the first of the year. The 2020 Rent Smart calendar has been supplied to all partnering agencies in Fond du Lac County as well as Landlords have been sent the schedule.
- Tidemann began the **3-D Dollars During Development** program with Waupun Rock River Elementary in December through February, and Boys and Girls Club in Fond du Lac will begin after the first of the year. A total of 100 children will be involved. Facebook Live video presentations to accompany the Parenting behind the Behavior segment have been taped in December for airing in January.
- Tidemann is working with the **Money Smart Week** Committee, preparing for the Kids Read event for the 2020 event. Tidemann will be a panel member on a Money Smart Week Zoom for new Extension colleagues on January 13th.
- Tidemann will conduct **Colors Training** for 18 individuals in the Agriculture Education program at Lakeshore Technical College in March.

Resilient & Productive Environment

- Dairy & Livestock Agent Tina Kohlman continues to **develop and plan extension winter agriculture programming** related to farm succession, feeding challenges, reproductive strategies, and animal well-being.
- Kohlman offered **Beef Quality Assurance Training** for two individuals via online. The purpose of beef quality assurance is to help producers increase best management and animal husbandry practices to produce a safe, wholesome food product for the consumer. Certification is for three years, opening potential markets and buyers for beef producers.
- Crops and soils agent, Joe Zimbric, was recently awarded a grant from the **National Wildlife Federation** specifically to develop programming for farmers who haven't yet incorporated cover crops into their cropping systems.
- Zimbric is working on **developing winter extension meetings and programming**, including insurance coverage training, winter grazing, manure management, and farm stress management.

Office Updates

- Tidemann and Hammer began the **several-month long mentoring program** taught by Extension to provide seasoned educators with the same resources and information new colleagues are learning. Both Tidemann and Hammer are mentoring new colleagues as they get started in Extension.



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Joe Zimbric, Crops & Soils Agriculture Educator (Fond du Lac/Dodge Counties)