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

Food Safety, Food Security & Health

- FoodWise has begun programming in July with a new partner, **Forward Services**. This will be an ongoing partnership throughout the entire year. Educators will be teaching two classes each month with the topics of Food Budgeting and Meal Planning.
- **Partnership for a Healthier America's FNV campaign** has partnered with UW-Extension FoodWise and other state organizations to market fruits and vegetables the same way that big brands market their products. New this year, the FNV campaign will now come to Fond du Lac County. Amanda Miller and Dusty Krikau (Downtown Fond du Lac Partnership) will host review groups of Fond du Lac County residents to help determine the 2019 messages and themes. Past themes have been "diehard fans eat green and gold" (reference to the Packers with an image of peppers) and "root, root, root for the home team" (reference to the Brewers with an image of root vegetables).
- With the state FoodWise office, Miller is pilot testing a **farmer's market tour curriculum** ([Discover Michigan Fresh](#)) at the Downtown Fond du Lac Farmers Market. The tour will include information on helping new customers become familiar with the market, how to save money at the market, information on how to use FoodShare/EBT (electronic benefits transfer), and selection/storage/use of produce. The goal is to create a Wisconsin version of the curriculum. The tours will take place on August 25th and September 15th.
- The new **Fondy Food Pantry** location is nearing its grand opening. With guidance from Miller, the pantry used the "[Safe and Healthy Food Pantries](#)" toolkit to implement strategies to make the pantry healthier and safer. This includes [MyPlate](#) throughout the pantry and helping customers choose healthier foods.
- The "**FDL Fresh 5**" is a farmer's market donation program with an emphasis on connecting Fond du Lac families with healthier food pantry donations. This program, started by Miller and Bill Zeleske (farmers market vendor), is an opportunity for Fond du Lac farmers and customers to donate fresh fruits and vegetables to local food pantries following each Saturday market. In addition to fresh produce, whole grains foods and low-sodium canned goods are also accepted. Between late August and mid-October 2017, nearly 2,000 pounds of produce were donated. To date this summer, nearly 500 pounds of produce and \$400 has been donated to Broken Bread and the Fondy Food Pantry.

Thriving Youth, Families & Communities

- Diana Hammer and Joe Giron taught **Systems Thinking** to a group of 20 Lakeland Care District supervisors, emphasizing how events can be perceived different ways based on the information available to us and what information we are open to receiving. Learning Systems Thinking is a skill for professional and personal development. Also gave systems thinking assistance to the employees at Oechsner Farms, focusing on improving the work environment. We interpreted for the group and the farm owners as well.

- Hammer met with the City of Waupun Community Development Director to discuss a **future downtown market analysis** in collaboration with UW-Extension Specialist Bill Ryan.
- **Latinos Unidos en FDL** leaders met to further develop plans for the Independence Day Celebration in September. They also considered four additional requests from community organizations for their participation.
- Tina Kohlman, in collaboration with Investors Community Bank & Trust and Compeer Financial, hosted the annual **Dairy Management Project Tour** to Southwest Wisconsin for seven dairy youth. The purpose of the project tour is to show youth the opportunities “outside their barn doors”, learning about various management practices, facilities, and philosophies. Members present a capstone project to a judge, with cash awards provided by Compeer Financial.
- 156 youth participated in this year’s **Market Livestock Project**, with the project completion occurring during the Fond du Lac County Fair. Kohlman provides educational support in the areas of animal husbandry and connecting real-world agriculture to their 4-H/FFA project during the project year.
- The **Fond du Lac County Fair** is an opportunity for the 4-H members to demonstrate their mastery in their projects. The fair is an excellent opportunity for the 4-H youth to celebrate their hard work as well as practice their communication skills through one on one judging with judges. The judging process is focused on the youth and what they have learned through the process of completing their projects. Pam Bartoli, support staff, volunteered as our horse superintendent throughout County Fair week and Kohlman worked with the dairy and livestock exhibitors.
- **State Fair and Merit Awards** - Fond du Lac County sends 45 projects to be exhibited at the State Fair. The State Fair ribbon is the highest honor youth can receive on a project. The project has to be exceptional in order to be chosen, and the judges choose which projects are recognized. Merit awards are the second highest honor youth can receive. These awards do not go to the State Fair, but it is still a very prestigious award.
- 45 County Fair exhibits were chosen to be on display at the **Gallery and Frame Shop** in Fond du Lac. These items are put in the front window of the store for the month of August.
- Throughout the week of the fair, there are many **fund development projects** at work. Adult volunteers and 4-H members work together at the Adult Leaders Food Stand, the Teen Leaders Food Stand, the Silent Auction, and the 4-H Raffle. They learn how to contribute to the group effort that is raising funds for the 4-H program and the Endowment Fund.
- Alexis Newton, interim 4-H Program Coordinator, was the emcee for the **4-H Graduation & Recognition Ceremony**. Allen Buechel, County Executive, presented the graduation certificates; Cindy Sarkady, Area Extension Director, gave the closing speech during this event. This program is to recognize 4-H members in 12th grade who elected to graduate and those in 13th grade who are graduating. In addition, those who earned scholarships or Key Awards are also recognized. 26 4-H members graduated, 4 earned Key Awards, 3 earned Teen Leader Scholarships, 6 earned Adult Leader Scholarships, and 2 earned Thuerwachter Scholarships.
- Giron attended the Hispanic event in Sheboygan and shared the [Wisconsin Idea](#), as well as the different programs UW-Extension has to offer, emphasizing business development.
- **Co-Parenting court mandated classes** for 24 divorcing parents and 12 paternity parents were taught by Shelley Tidemann in May and July. Forty-three children were involved with these 36 parents. Tidemann will be working with Family Courts to review/update the Co-Parenting presentations.

- **Just in Time Parenting age-paced newsletter** partnership continues. Tidemann has reached out to the Bethany adoption agency to investigate adding adoptive parents to the Just In Time parent education effort. The agency has agreed to offer the newsletter opportunity to their parents. Tidemann has been named to sit on the National Board of Review for the Just In Time Parenting Newsletter.
- Tidemann completed the 5 week series of [Protective Factors Framework training](#) in July. Training for professionals is provided by the Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board and National Alliance of Children's Trust Prevention Funds. Strengthening Families: Five Protective Factors - is a research-based framework to guide services and support for families who live in our communities. Training has content for everyday actions that research shows to be effective in strengthening families, especially those who have experienced toxic stress, trauma and challenging life situations.
- Tidemann serves on the CSI **Trauma Informed Care** workgroup addressing trauma and adverse childhood experiences in children/families in Fond du Lac County.
- Tidemann has been contacted by Lakeshore Technical College- Ag Division to provide [Real Colors](#) training for the Ag Marketing and Sales class this Fall.

Stronger Economies

- Giron and Hammer met with five **new entrepreneurship clients** and worked extensively with one existing owner as she navigates a crisis.
- As part of the **IGNITE! Steering Team**, Hammer and Giron considered the possibility of IGNITE! becoming a trustee for entrepreneurs wanting to crowdsource loans via [Kiva.org](#). Additionally, Diana met with WWBIC to learn how they decide which business owners to endorse on Kiva and what additional funding they can offer Fond du Lac area owners.
- Tidemann taught **Rent Smart** to 35 Fond du Lac landlords at the annual training in June. Twenty individuals attended Rent Smart held in July. Additionally, Rent Smart will also hold a session in Ripon in October. Special speakers for the Ripon event have been secured.
- Tidemann taught at the Fond du Lac **Boys and Girls Club** Johnsonville and Theisen site - Summer School in June and July to 52 2nd graders. The following books: Curious George Saves His Pennies, Tia Isa Wants a Car, and Just Shopping with my Mother were used and sent home with each student. Concepts of patience, self-control and sharing were focused on through student interactive activities based upon each respective book. Books are being funded through the Safe and Stable Families grant.
- Ten **Forward Services** clients have attended the Success Series classes taught by Tidemann. Classes taught in June and July were three different sessions on communication and stress reduction.

Office Updates

- **4-H Program Coordinator** position – Amy Mangan-Fischer has accepted the position and will start Aug. 9.
- [Fond du Lac/Washington County Positive Youth Development Educator position](#) – Applications will be accepted until August 6.

- **Mike Beer**, new County Board member, along with BJ Demaa, Waupun Fire Chief, attended our July 16 staff meeting.
- Hammer traveled to Detroit to present about Fond du Lac County minority business owners and the need for future research and equitable support to all entrepreneurs at the annual **Community Development Society conference**.
- Giron attended a workshop for state interns in Madison to learn about **unconscious bias**.
- Giron attended the **Aspiring Servant Leaders** conference, along with a leader from LUFDL.



Joe Giron, Bilingual Latino Community Development Intern
 Diana Hammer, Community, Natural Resource & Economic Development Educator
 Tina Kohlmann, Dairy & Livestock Agent
 Amanda Miller, FoodWise Coordinator/Family Living Educator
 Pamela Nelson, FoodWise Educator
 Alexis Newton, Interim 4-H Program Coordinator
 Dr. Loretta Ortiz-Ribbing, Area Crops & Soils Agent
 Patty Percy, Community Garden Coordinator
 Melanie Phillips, FoodWise Educator
 Cindy Sarkady, Area Extension Director
 Shelley Tidemann, Family Living Educator

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