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

Stronger Economies

- Tina Kohlman attended the [Dairyland Initiative Young Stock Facility Design Shortcourse](#) to learn more about facility design and animal well-being.
- Six producers attended the [Dairy Margin Protection Program](#) (DMPP) Information meeting. There was a change in the Farm Bill supported risk management tool allowing farmers to pay smaller premiums for margin protection. Kohlman discussed how to determine income over feed costs as a way to determine margin needs.
- Shelley Tidemann has been contacted by Probation and Parole to supply **budget sessions for parole clients**. A meeting with management will be in June.
- Nineteen **Forward Services** clients have attended the Success Series classes taught by Tidemann. Classes taught in May were three different sessions on budget development, communication and stress reduction.
- The **Rent Smart State Team** presented at the Joint Council of Extension Professionals Conference on the new Rent Smart curriculum available nationwide. In addition, a statewide evaluation of trained Rent Smart trainers was conducted with impact report to be designed from the survey results. Tidemann is co-chair of the Rent Smart State Team and has prepared the presentation. Tidemann taught the May Rent Smart class with 11 individuals receiving their certificates. Tidemann will also be teaching in June about Rent Smart at the Fond du Lac Landlord annual training. Additionally Tidemann has responded to a request from the Senior Center for Rent Smart in Ripon -- awaiting follow up from Ripon.
- Tidemann serves on the FDL **Money Smart Week** Committee. Tidemann taught a session on setting up a budget for 15 Holiday Auto employees. 2018 Money Smart Week's classes and events connected with 1,897 individuals. This was done via face-to-face presentations as well as Facebook Live presentations. 2019 Money Smart Week committee will reconvene in September to begin planning for next year.
- Tidemann 2018 Plan of Work for **Financial Security/Capability Education** was submitted to the state database as directed.
- Tidemann presented on the work of the **Dollars During Development** state team at the JCEP Conference. Tidemann is one of 7 educators designing and writing parent guides focusing on financial literacy executive function development in young children. Tidemann will be teaching at the Fond du Lac Boys and Girls Club Summer School. Four of the Dollars for Development books with parent guides will be used with 100 2nd graders attending Johnsonville and Theisen sites.
- No word has been received on the **Federal Grant for the National Research Project** Tidemann and DSS have applied for to be a federal/state training site. Tidemann was told May 2018 is the timeline for communication if the grant is received.

- Latinos Unidos/4-H youth and parents ran three lemonade stands as part of the area-wide [Lemonade Day](#). Afterward, Diana Hammer asked what they learned. One often quiet girl said, *"talk and express more. I didn't like to talk. It's not as bad as I thought it would be,"* about interacting with customers. Other comments were: *"Be yourself. It helps others come to your stand."* And a third said, *"Find events that are going on. Busier places"* [to put your stand]. They decided to do another food stand and will be meeting with the Health Department at the end of the month to learn the "adult rules" for operating a food business.
- Hammer and co-author Dr. Joseph Malual (Chippewa County UW-Extension) sent an article about **minority business development** to the Community Development Society journal. The editor suggested revisions and encouraged a resubmittal.

Thriving Youth, Families, Organizations & Communities

- Twenty-six junior livestock exhibitors attended the [Youth for the Quality Care of Animals](#) (YQCA) certification taught by Kohlman. The purpose of YQCA is to teach youth how their market livestock project fits into real world agriculture.
- **Co-Parenting court mandated classes** for 25 divorcing parents and seven paternity parents were taught by Tidemann in May. Thirty-nine children were involved with these 32 parents. Tidemann will be working with Family Courts to review/update the Co-Parenting presentations in July.
- Tidemann taught a session for the **Women's Empowerment Series**. Curriculum used -Taking Care of You: Body, Mind and Spirit focused on stress reduction strategies. It was presented to 60 individuals.
- **Just in Time Parenting** age paced newsletter partnership continues. Tidemann has been working with Family Resource Center to further the reach to get parent education into parents' hands.
- Tidemann 2018 Plan of Work for **Human Development and Relationships Education** was submitted to the state database as directed.
- Tidemann has begun the 5 week series of **Protective Factors Framework training**. Training for professionals is provided by Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board and the 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. The training has content for everyday actions that research shows to be effective in strengthening families, especially those who have experienced toxic stress and challenging life situations.
- Tidemann has joined 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 Charter to again provide [Real Colors](#) training for 22 of their management team members in August.
- **Latinos Unidos** leaders, encouraged by Hammer, requested a meeting with Emergency Management Director Bobbi Hicken ahead of the Dark Sky simulation. They learned many strategies for responding to disasters and gave input into the community communication plans.
- Hammer **facilitated two focus groups** - one with nonprofit directors and one with Leadership Fond du Lac participants - with the Fond du Lac Area United Way as part of a series of community input sessions they are doing

before revising organizational priorities.

- Tidemann and Hammer, representing UW-Extension, along with four leaders of Latinos Unidos, hosted booths at **Rock River Intermediate School, Waupun**. 30 Spanish-speaking families attended the open house and fun fair to learn about community resources.
- Hammer **facilitated three conversations** with Fond du Lac City Council and County Board members, major donors to United Way, and fifth graders at Pier Elementary School with the Fond du Lac Area United Way as part of a series of community input sessions they are doing before revising organizational priorities.
- Diana collaborated with resident and business owner Lora Vahlsing and Bob Hoffmaster of KFIZ radio for an interview about **race in a transracial, adoptive family**. Ms. Vahlsing is Korean and described her experience growing up with white parents and in a majority white school, and now raising a Korean daughter. This segment can be heard [online](#) (24:47 minutes) and will continue the 4th Wednesday of every month in 2018.

Food Safety, Food Security & Health

- Amanda Miller received the **“Growing Together WI” grant**, which will support the building of a wheelchair accessible veterans’ garden in downtown Fond du Lac and a community garden spot. The grant is intended to bring together Master Gardeners (gardening) and FoodWise (nutrition) in the local counties. The Junior Master Gardener program is an example of how Fond du Lac County UW-Extension has been collaborating well for many years. This project is supported by Patty Percy and Dr. Loretta Ortiz-Ribbing, who provided garden plan support, Norb Chesney (Master Gardener Volunteer), who created the final garden plan, and Kim Galske (Salute the Troops, Director). Meetings have begun to discuss plans.
- FoodWise recently completed the 2018-2019 **fiscal year budget**, which will bring up to \$225,000 into both Fond du Lac and Sheboygan Counties.
- Miller will be presenting canning and food preservation demos at the **Downtown Fond du Lac Farmers Market** this summer. Dates include: June 16, August 18, and September 15.
- Miller is currently working on **two state teams** dedicated to improving FoodWise outreach and programming to early child care programs and to farmers markets. The group is peer reviewing and pilot testing curriculum, designing training modules for FoodWise staff across the state, and developing strategies to improve relationships with partners.

Resilient & Productive Environment

- Dr. Loretta Ortiz-Ribbing spent May working with farmers to plan, prepare, and planting for the 2018 **six on-farm research trials** to evaluate the best methods for successfully applying cover crops.
- Ortiz-Ribbing is overseeing the **Cover Crops Incentive Program** for cost-sharing for any producer who has farmland in Dodge County. Fond du Lac County producers farming land in Dodge County are eligible.
- Cassie Strauss started on May 17th as Ortiz-Ribbing’s **Healthy Soil-Healthy Water Intern** as part of the DATCP Producer Led Grant. This intern will be housed in Dodge County.
- Dr. Ortiz-Ribbing spoke at the first Fond du Lac County **Master Gardener Garden Fair and Plant Sale** about *Protecting Pollinators and Beneficial Insects—Habitat for your Home Landscape*. Over 400 people attended this new MGVI educational event that featured 5 educational speakers, 6 exhibits, 12 vendors, and a plant sale.

Office Update

- The **4-H Program Coordinator** position has been reposted. Applications will be accepted until June 15. Final interviews are planned for mid-July.
- **Alexis Newton** will serve as part time interim 4-H Coordinator.
- Tidemann has been placed on the **Performance Management Project** for Cooperative Extension on the state level. Core Competencies for Cooperative Extension employees are being originated through the nEXT Generation reorganization.
- Kohlman, Tidemann, Miller & Hammer are serving on the **Area 15 Situational Analysis Work Group** to determine trends/needs for our area and how Extension in Area 15 will address the needs identified.
- Hammer met twice this month with Karina Ward who she is **mentoring**. Karina began as the Ozaukee County Community Development Educator in May.
- Hammer is serving on the **Search and Screen Committee** for the UW-Extension Community Institute Director. Final interviews take place on June 4 and 5 in Madison.
- Hammer was accepted to present a break out session about her minority owned business research at the national conference of the **Community Development Society** in Detroit, MI, July 23-25.
- **Joe Giron** began as the Bilingual Latino Community Development Intern on May 29. He will work this summer with Hammer learning business, leadership and organizational development skills with Latinos Unidos, IGNITE!, and Young Dreamers 4-H.
- Dr. Ortiz-Ribbing attended the **JCEP conference** in the Wisconsin Dells on May 1-2.



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 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