
*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 in conjunction with the Fond du Lac County Forage Council conducted the **annual Corn Silage Dry Down**. With low milk prices, and one opportunity to harvest high quality forage for the year, harvesting corn silage at the optimal moisture is key. One hundred fifty-four (154) samples were submitted for analysis over the course of the dates provided. <https://fyi.uwex.edu/fdlag/fdl-ag-corn-silage/>
- Kohlman, in collaboration with the Fond du Lac County Farm Service Agency, toured southern Fond du Lac County **observing crop and facility damage caused by late August storms**. Resources have been provided to farmers via one-on-one, email blasts, and Facebook posts.
- Kohlman recently began working with a farm family on **farm business succession**, including discussions on farm business transition, estate planning, and retirement planning.
- Diana Hammer joined Tracey Robertson, the founder of the Regional People of Color Business Association, on WOSH radio in Oshkosh to discuss the need for **culturally responsive economic development services** to meet the demand of a growing number of minority entrepreneurs and business owners in the region.
- Joe Giron created a video in Spanish that outlines rules about setting up **temporary food stands and food carts**, a frequently asked question by aspiring entrepreneurs.

Thriving Youth, Families & Communities

- Over 200 members' 4-H record books, officer books (historian, secretary, treasurer) and award applications were submitted to the county level for review by 27 volunteers. 214 youth will be recognized at the annual **4-H Achievement Night** on October 15th. Youth will be recognized for their leadership, community service, and growth in 4-H.
- This year representatives from all community clubs and chartered groups will be receiving the statewide training "**All Together, Not the Same.**" This training will focus on diversity and inclusion and the need to ensure that all youth and adults feel welcome and that they belong in 4-H. In addition, all community clubs and chartered groups are setting goals that focus on reaching out to youth and families who are underrepresented in their 4-H club/group.
- The last week of September, 28 4-H members will **interview for partial funding for 2019 travel experiences** and the Key Award. The Key Award is the **highest 4-H recognition** that youth can receive. Youth applying for the Key Award must show how they have grown in 4-H, displayed leadership, and how they have contributed to their club, community, and county. The interviews provide youth with an opportunity to increase their self-confidence, practice their communication skills, and grow as they reflect on the interviewer's feedback.

- Hammer facilitated a second meeting of the **Fond du Lac School District Equity Leadership Team** to finish conversation begun in June about their role as a committee and individual group members' roles. Participants made decisions about how often, about what, and with whom they want to meet during the school year, and who they will invite to join.
- Latinos Unidos en FDL hosted a third **Independence Day Celebration** which featured the 4-H/Latinos Unidos Dance Club doing six performances, as well as several informational booths from Latino-owned businesses, Job Center, MPTC, and UW-Extension. Last year the event was organized by Araceli Oswald and about six Latino leaders. This year a team of twelve worked together since April to plan and host it. Hammer will continue to support the leadership and organizational development work of this group as they form a non-profit and begin fundraising as an independent organization.
- Hammer began a series of meetings with the **City of Fond du Lac Comptroller's Office** as they examine their process for completing specific jobs and look for ways to improve them.
- Shavana Talbert joined Hammer in a **radio interview on KFIZ about race**. She talked about growing up as the only Black girl in advanced high school classes in Fond du Lac, moving away to college where she could study African American Vernacular English and African American history, and now working to improve student outcomes in the Fond du Lac School District as the Equity Coach. Listen to the recording [here](#) (28 minutes).
- Hammer met with Yia Xiong, the elected **Hmong community leader**, to learn about programming opportunities that would be useful to his families.
- Hammer and Mayte Peña, leader of the **4-H/Latinos Unidos Dance Club**, interviewed with Rae Nell Halbur for her weekly segment on KFIZ.

Resilient & Productive Environment

- Hammer organized and promoted a **well water sampling program** with the Town of Empire board. Residents will sample on October 16, and an informational meeting about the results will occur on Wednesday, November 14, from 6:30-8 pm at the Town Hall.

Food Safety, Food Security & Health

- Pamela Nelson taught a class on **developing a spending plan** at Riverside Apartments. Four people attended the program. Topics covered were: having a spending plan can help match your expenses with your income. They discussed the difference between "needs" and "wants" and looked at income and expenses. They practiced developing a budget by using a case study. Some comments from the program were: "I learned how little things can add up for big savings" and "I learned ways to save money."
- Due to popular demand, Amanda Miller and the Fond du Lac Senior Center have expanded the **StrongBodies program** (formerly known as Strong Women) from 2-10 week sessions to 4-10 week sessions. The program is currently seeking an additional person interested in facilitating the 4th session. The most recent sessions began on September 10 & 11th, which includes classes held at both the Fond du Lac Senior Center and the UW-Fond du Lac campus.
- Miller partnered with Jane Jensen (UW-Extension Sheboygan County Family Living Educator) to offer two break-out sessions at the annual conference for the **Wisconsin Association of Housing Authorities** (WAHA) on September 18. The sessions provided conference participants with an overview of poverty in Wisconsin. Eighteen participants attended the sessions.

- 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. To date this summer, nearly 2500 pounds of produce and \$530 has been donated to Broken Bread and the Fondy Food Pantry.
- Miller attended the "**Falls Awareness Day**" event on September 21 at Moraine Park Technical College, offered by the Fond du Lac County ADRC. Miller offered information to older aged adults on how proper nutrition and physical activity can improve balance and prevent falls.
- Miller serves on the **Fond du Lac Farmers Market Steering Committee**. As the end of the season approaches, a few year-end events have been planned, including a 'pumpkin-palooza' event at the market and a vendor appreciation night.
- Miller received the "**Growing Together WI**" grant, which supports gardens for veterans. One of the garden locations is the Community Gardens, where Master Gardener volunteers and veterans have already grown and harvested a few hundred pounds of produce that was donated to veterans and the Fondy Food Pantry. Building is completed for the downtown location on 1st and Marr. Miller and Patty Percy were involved with the planning and building. For more information, see: <https://www.fdlreporter.com/story/money/2018/08/10/streetwise-veteran-garden-open-opinions-new-local-businesses-sought/892828002/> and <https://www.wbay.com/content/news/Urban-garden-for-veterans-set-to-open-in-Fond-du-Lac-492726531.html>. This project is in partnership with the Fond du Lac County Master Gardener volunteers and Salute the Troops.
- **FoodWise** begins a new fiscal year, which is from October 1, 2018, to September 30, 2019. The beginning of a fiscal year means a busy transition time. Miller and Melanie Phillips, Pamela Nelson, and Janeth Orozco (Educators) have been busy closing out the FY18 year and planning for the FY19 year. In FY19, FoodWise will bring \$200,000 into Fond du Lac and Sheboygan Counties.
- The **Junior Master Gardeners** continue to come every week to harvest their garden and donate any extra produce to needy local families.
- **Community Gardens** participants have received the latest newsletter, "The Garden Path." The gardens will be closing Sunday, October 21. There will be a garden walk-through gathering produce for the second harvest.

Office Updates

- Fond du Lac/Washington County Positive Youth Development Educator position was reposted on September 24.
- Hammer attended the second meeting of the **UW-Extension Latino Task Force**, organized by colleagues and supported by the Dean's Office "to provide visioning and initiatives that will reach and work alongside with Latino communities across the state."
- Joe Giron completed his summer **Latino Community Development internship**, writing in a reflection, "*The simple fact that someone is dedicated specifically to this underserved audience creates a 'feeling of belonging' in the sense that a person who is at a disadvantage for being an immigrant, not knowing the system, not speaking the language, with few relationships, feels that they do belong, that someone is taking them into account, listening, and understanding....UW-Extension creates this 'feeling of belonging' toward the community in me, creating the motivation to continue working each day to improve things, committing myself to give my best for each person here.*"



Joe Giron, Bilingual Latino Community Development Intern
Diana Hammer, Community, Natural Resource & Economic Development Educator
Tina Kohlmann, Dairy & Livestock Agent
Amy Mangan-Fischer, 4-H Program Coordinator
Amanda Miller, FoodWise Coordinator/Family Living Educator
Pamela Nelson, FoodWise Educator
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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