

December 2019 Educator Update

FoodWIse Education - Kelly Hammond, Penny Schmidt & Hannah Wendels

- Teaching events: Ongoing StrongBodies classes at the YMCA and Roscholt, Grocery Store tours at Plover WalMart, 6th grade classrooms at McKinley Elementary, and planning for first-in-state online parent education class (we will be using the Yum to Yum/Feeding for Healthy Eating Curriculum).
- Policy, Systems and Environmental work: working with state Hunger Relief Federation to improve the Stevens Point Area School District school breakfast program (a grab-and-go program will be pilot tested in January in 2 schools), worked with Aspirus, Stevens Point Area COOP and Fruit and Veggie Network to bring their Fruit and Vegetable Prescription program to the Stevens Point area Coop as a redemption site (secured \$500 in vouchers for area programs), Secured \$600 from the Health Department Prevention Program to offer a small pilot program for EBT/Foodshare use at the Farmers Market in 2020, will be meeting with Patrick Testin on 12/6 to discuss expanding program state-wide.
- New Hire: hired a Wood County Nutrition Educator, Hannah Wendels as part of the Wood/Portage County Team, start date 11/11. Hannah has been shadowing and collaborating on existing FoodWIse projects.
- Events/Partnerships/Conferences: Children's Wisconsin Holiday Event,, 12/3, Hunger and Poverty Prevention Partnership 12/4, Healthy Weight Team 11/20, Fruit and Veggie Network 12/5. Hmong UpLift Family Night 11/15, Extension All-Colleague, 11/18-19.

4-H Programming - Connie Creighton

- Met with UWSP personnel to discuss Dr. Temple Grandin's visit to campus on December 3rd. Dr. Grandin wanted a separate meet and greet with the local 4-H and FFA youth and parents. Over 75 youth and adults attended the special meet and greet session. At the session Dr. Grandin did a short presentation on how to work with livestock that results in the least amount of stress on the animal, providing a safe humane environment for both animal and caretaker. In the evening several 4-H families attended her presentation on 'Different Kinds of Minds' at Sentry Theater.
- Volunteer adults and youth recognition programs were held in November 2019. One program was the 4-H Leaders Banquet which had a total of 58 attendees. Twenty-seven 4-H adult volunteer leaders were recognized for their years of leadership in the 4-H

program, with a combined total of 267 years of volunteer service in the Portage County 4-H program.

• One-hundred and nineteen youth & adults attended the 4-H Award program. Youth were recognized for their role in leadership events, programs, and positions. Twenty-two 4-H youth leaders received special recognition for the leadership they showed in club and county programs & projects. 4-H members were also recognized for their participation in leadership educational events and programs. The outgoing President of the 4-H Teen Leaders MC'ed the program with help from the 4-H Ambassadors and the Award Committee.



Dr. Temple Grandin and members of the Tomorrow River Voyages 4-H Club

Agriculture Education - Ken Schroeder

- Harvested Adaptive Nitrogen Management corn trial plots.
- Organized Farmers of Mill Creek Watershed cover crop field tour and year-end program.
- Mill Creek Watershed project farm visits.

Community, Natural Resources & Economic Development Education - Nathan Sandwick

- Supported CoopCon 2019 by promoting participation in-advance, and moderating two discussion sessions. The conference took place here in Portage County in November and drew participants from near and far. The novel and energizing learning opportunity for current and future cooperative leaders aimed at building momentum for people to form and actively participate in local, grassroots cooperatives. Locals with mutual interests are (for now) meeting weekly to collaborate and cultivate such prospects.
- Prepared and delivered a presentation concisely identifying several issues concerning community planning practices and development patterns that can lead to a lack of affordable housing options. This featured prospects for planning-for and permitting more housing options that may improve the situation.

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Human Development and Relationships Education - Sherry Daniels

- Completed an all day training from the Madison Tenant Resource Center which will allow me to coach those individuals who participate in Rent Ready Wisconsin.
- Financial Wellness of Portage County has been getting many requests for female financial coaches so I trained another coach this month.
- Continued to lead the Advanced StrongBodies class at the ADRC on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:30 to 5:30 PM.
- For Dollars During Development I read to three HeadStart classes (60 children). Each student received their own "Count on Pablo" book and a parent guide to take home. Dates are scheduled to read additional books in January, February and March.
- Wrote, and received, a grant to the Department of Children and Families and received \$2,675 for the start-up of a Portage County Kinship Support Group. The memorandum to approve will be presented at the next Agriculture and Extension Board meeting.

Area Director Update - Jason Hausler

- Worked with the Procurement Department and Executive Holman to get the Extension Contract signed and submitted.
- Working with colleagues in Area 7 on the rebranding of county offices, working with the state office of communications and with local staff to help meet their needs
- Supporting Portage County colleagues to navigate new procedures regarding contracts, MOU's and grant procurement with our UW-Madison partners.

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