

**Monroe County Natural Resource and Extension Committee**  
Regular Monthly Meeting – November 13, 2018  
Monroe County Ag Service Center – 820 Industrial Dr., Sparta, WI

Committee Members present: D. Pierce, J. Schroeder, W. Habegger, and A. McCoy.

Absent: N. VanWychen and D. Powell

Also Present: C. Ziegler (Forestry), J. Roll (History), B. Micheel (LC), B. Halfman (UW-EXT), C. Saxe (UW-EXT Area Dir.), A. Karrels (Deke Sleighton Museum), B. Richardson (LC), M. Modjeski (Warden), S. Davison (DNR Forester), and Amber Canto (Ext. Health and Well-Being Institute Director)

The meeting notice was posted in compliance with the open meeting law.

**Call to Order:** Vice-Chair D. Pierce called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

**Public Comment Period:** None

**Approve Minutes from the October 9th NR & Extension Meeting:** The committee reviewed the minutes. *A motion was made to approve the minutes as presented by A. McCoy, second by J. Schroeder. Motion carried 4-0-1.*

**Deke Slayton/Bike Museum:** A. Karrels gave an update on the different activities scheduled, including planning a Christmas Parade and a Winter Craft Day at the end of December. Karrels also reported that Mr. Science (Mr. Scheckel of Tomah) was well attended at the Museum last Thursday. Karrels spoke of the Deep Space Travel Challenge and the general interest. They are waiting to hear back from the State regarding the changing exhibit area addition. Karrels spoke of sponsoring a traveling space exhibit scheduled for June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

**Local History Room/Wegner Grotto:** J. Roll reviewed expenditures and presented his Director's report to the committee (attached). J. Roll met with Ben Caguioa, a restoration specialist at the Grotto to discuss the preservation plans. Roll discussed the "All Aboard the 50's Train" exhibit, which is scheduled to open November 15<sup>th</sup>, from 6:30-8 p.m. at the Local History Room. Roll showed the "Museum Award of Excellence" Plaque, received from the Wisconsin Federation of Museums, awarded to the Monroe County Local History Room and Museum for the A to Z Exhibit. *Motion was made by J. Schroeder to accept the History Rooms expenditure and Director's report, second by A. McCoy. Motion carried 4-0-1.*

**County Farm Education Funds:** None

**Extension Office Business:**

1. **Review October Expenditures:** (Saxe) C. Saxe reviewed October expenditures.
2. **Family Living Position:** C. Saxe reported that Vernon County met to discuss the shared position. After some discussion, Vernon County tabled the decision on filling the position until their December meeting. Saxe shared handouts regarding the position and then introduced Extension Health and Well-Being Institute director, Amber Canto, (joining via internet). Amber answered questions and provided an overview of the position and its new title of "Health and Well-being" Educator. Key points Amber covered included:
  - Reviewing programming possibilities as described in the position description
  - Outlining key programming the previous educator had been doing and sharing ideas of additional programming this position could accomplish
  - Sharing thoughts on next steps, including possible options, if Vernon County chooses not to support re-filling this position
3. **Office Relocation:** No Activity.
4. **4H & Youth Development Report** (Goede) – report attached.
5. **Agriculture Report** (Halfman) - report attached.

6. **AED Update (Saxe)** – C. Saxe reported that with Extension’s transition to UW-Madison, physical signage needs for County Offices are being reviewed. The anticipation is that new signage will be created using a new logo identifying us as the Division of Extension at UW-Madison. Financial support for these new signs will be covered through UW-Madison. With the Monroe County Extension Office moving to a new location, new signage will be a welcome addition. *Motion made by J. Schroeder to accept Agent reports and review of expenditures, second by W. Habhegger. Motion carried 4-0-1.*

**NRCS Report:** None

**Land Conservation Department:**

1. **Review October Expenditures:** B. Micheel reviewed expenditures.
2. **County Conservationist Report:** B. Micheel reported Stewardship Award winners were notified and interviews are ongoing and the Cashton HS will work with the LCD to document the winners in a DVD format for the banquet. Micheel mentioned the CWD Task Force promoting CWD proactive measures on various media sites. Micheel discussed a proposal for the purchase of the Ag Service Center.
3. **Cost Share Agreements-Review/Approve:** B. Richardson brought a Cost Share Agreement for Dave Everson dam repair for \$12,500 to the Committee. *Motion was made by J. Schroeder to approve the Cost share agreement as presented, second by A. McCoy. Motion was carried 4-0-2.*
4. **Soil & Water Conservationist Reports:** Reports Submitted. **B.** Richardson announced there will be a Non-Metallic informational hearing at the December 11<sup>th</sup> meeting for the Valley Junction Sand Mine Reclamation Plan. Richardson discussed an email he received for public records request regarding the possible Wildcat Bluff sand mine. Richardson stated he is surveying and inventorying sites for 2019 construction.

**DNR Reports:**

1. **Private Lands:** S. Davison reported tree sales started with 10,000 trees ordered for the county.
2. **Warden:** M. Modjeski reported he is serving as a Field Training Officer for Conservation Warden Ryan Mannes. Modjeski mentioned Mannes is working on a “Problem Based Learning Exercise” in conjunction with Monroe County CWD Task Force and the WI DNR “Adopting A Dumpster” program addressing and providing additional locations for the proper disposal of deer carcasses. Modjeski stated there will be a lot of deer testing this year for CWD in Monroe County.
3. **MFL:** None

**Forestry & Parks:**

1. **Forestry & Park Updates:** C. Ziegler presented his department report (attached). Ziegler mentioned timber sale 142(New Lyme) is almost complete and sale 151 (New Lyme) is about half finished. Ziegler reported on the scarification work on sale 151 and mentioned the prescribed burn was completed in New Lyme to promote native grasses and forbs. There was some discussion regarding the Tri Creek public access. Ziegler reported working on the snowmobile trail damage from the summer storms.
2. **Review Forestry & Parks October Expenditures:** C. Ziegler reviewed the October monthly expenditures.
3. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held Tuesday, December 11, 2018 at 8:30 a.m. at the Monroe County Ag Services Center in Sparta.

**Adjourn:** Meeting was adjourned at 10:45.

*Recorder: Connie Holzl*



*Bringing history to life  
since 1976.*

**LHR Director / County Historian's Report, October 2018**  
Submitted by Jarrod Roll

**Highlighted Projects and Activities by Jarrod Roll, Hannah Scholze, and Volunteers**

- Coordinated volunteers and promoted two Pioneer Games days (Sparta's "Fall Fest," Kendall's "Colors of Kendall")
- Provided educational programming for nearly 600 students at the Wegner Grotto, Sparta High School, Norskedalen, and Local History Room
- Attended State History and Preservation Conference in Elkhart Lake
- Hosted Sparta Lioness meeting and provided a program
- Designed, acquired materials for, and fabricated the "All Aboard the 50s Train: Monroe County in Miniature" display; designed and created the interpretive panels that go with the display
- Created promotional flyer for said exhibit and begin promotion of such
- Finalized 2018 Annual Fund mailing list and coordinated the printing, stuffing, and mailing of it; began processing contributions
- Met with Ben Caguioa, restoration specialist, at the Grotto to discuss preservation plans
- Formatted and wrote introduction to a series of WWI articles to be submitted to county newspapers for publishing
- Met with Finance Committee and County Administrator over 2019 Grotto and LHR budgets
- Interviewed potential on-call employee; provided orientation to same person who was selected for the job

**In addition to the projects listed above, the Director supervises the following volunteer and support staff:**

- Hannah Scholze (Museum Services Associate): runs Facebook; teaches students; assists with research, exhibits, marketing, and most projects listed above, etc.
- Agnes Jenkins: indexing newspapers
- Dennis Burek: photo scanning projects; artifact cataloging; assist with clerical duties
- Barb Reedich: researching Monroe County schools; answer research requests; assist with exhibits
- John Lasko: represents and promotes LHR at public events and in the region
- Jane Schmidt: indexing marriage records and sorting through court records
- Jim Ebert: indexing newspapers
- Sandy Walterman: creating a master index of Monroe County graduates
- Adam Balz: indexing cemetery records; researching and writing about county topics
- Marilyn Beall: indexing birth records; assisting with exhibits and collections
- Barb Reisinger: indexing newspapers
- Sara Oostdik: processing images scanned from photos shared by patrons





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Bill Halfman, Agriculture Agent

## **Agriculture Extension Highlights Update October 10, 2018 to November 13, 2018**

A beef cow-calf workshop was held concurrently in Cashton, Baldwin, and Alma on October 10<sup>th</sup>. The keynote speaker was Dr. Matt Spangler, University of Nebraska Extension Beef Cow-Calf Specialist. Dr. Spangler presented information on genomic enhanced EPD's and how cow calf producers can benefit from them. Ashley Olson, Vernon County Ag Educator presented information on feeding the cow herd this winter and the fact it may be economical to substitute some corn for hay this year. The Monroe County Ag Agent shared fall 2018 feed lot projections and also an update on molds in corn this year and management practices that beef producers should be implementing to avoid problems. There were thirty-five people in attendance.

The Ag Agent presented information on the different categories of pesticide applicators licenses landowner may need if they need to use restricted use pesticides for controlling invasive species on their property at the Monroe County Invasive Species workgroup meeting held at the Town of Scott Hall near Warrens.

The nitrogen rate plot has been harvested. The Ag Agent helped in the Buffalo County Agent in exchange for the Buffalo County Agent bringing the corn sheller to Monroe County and helping with the plot here. (picture and yield table attached).

The closing wheel trial was harvested on November 9<sup>th</sup>. The results are being analyzed at this time.

The Ag Agent is working with a beef producer to put together plans for a cattle handling facility for their cow-calf operation. Related to that, in a follow up discussion with a farmer who the Ag Agent worked with to develop a plan for a covered barnyard the farmer indicated that he went from being not sure he would use it much to very happy with how well it worked last winter. Prior to the covered barnyard the cows were out wintered and fed on the ground primarily. Typically, several pastures were beat up pretty bad by the end of the mud season and the cows calved out in the muddy conditions. He indicated that he reduced winter feed needs due to reduced waste by 1.8 tons of corn silage per cow, he had a big reduction in sick and dead calves, and with the facility is planning to retain ownership of part of the calf crop longer and finish them out during the summer when the covered barnyard is not used by the cows.

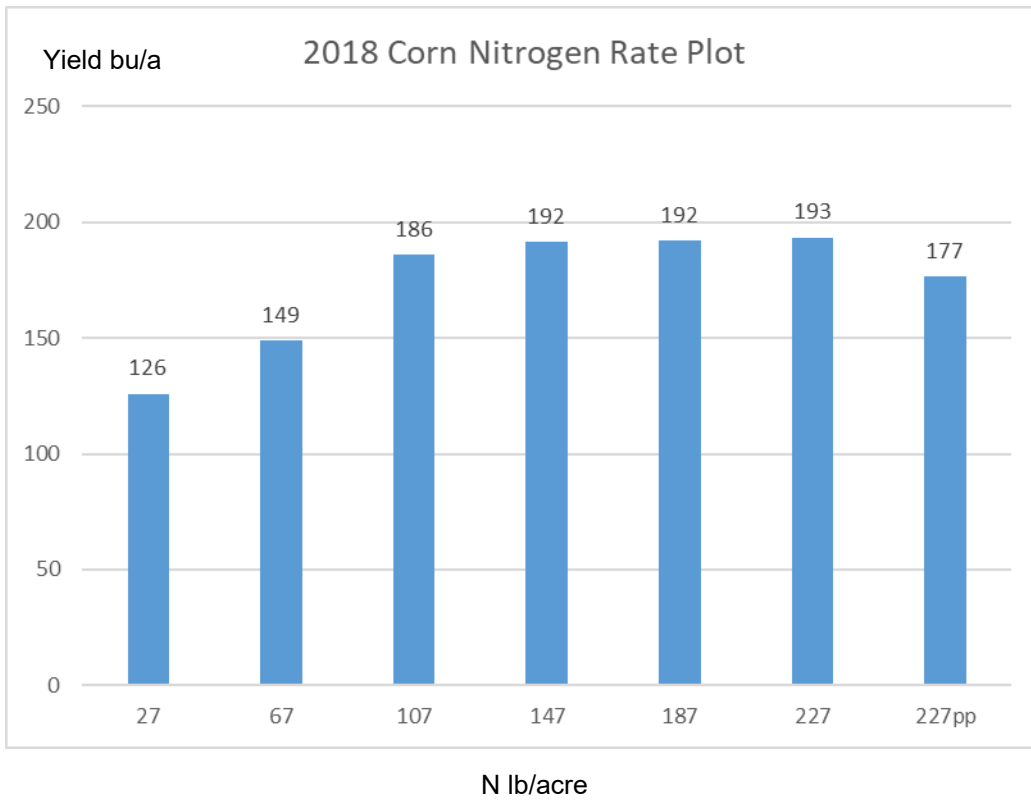
The Ag Agent is helping the new County Extension Educators with BQA programs.

A follow up result of the Ag Agent presenting the cattle feeding decision tools at the Ag Lenders Conference at Kimberly WI, is that he has been asked to write an article for Progressive Dairyman magazine on farmers evaluating if feeding out dairy steers is a good fit for their operation. The article is in the works at this time.

Ag Agents in our area met to begin planning out winter workshops for the region.

## **Upcoming Events- more to be added as they get finalized**

November 16 Pest Mgt Update- Bangor  
November 29 Soil and Water Mgt Update- Sparta  
Dec 4 to 6 All Staff Conference  
Dec 12 BQA Viroqua  
Dec 13 BQA Mondovi  
Jan 10 Agronomy Update- Sparta  
Jan 22 Dairy MPP program update- Cashton





## Vernon and Monroe Counties Health and Well-Being Educator

### Need for this position:

- NEEDS in the community identified by 2 school administrators from districts typical of Vernon County: I intentionally spoke with my principals from La Farge and Prairie View Elementary to ask them of needs that they see for their schools and for their students/families. These schools are very typical of Vernon County as many of their families come from farming communities, or low income families that have less access to community resources. OVERWHELMINGLY, they immediately identified MENTAL HEALTH as a HUGE need for students and PARENTS. They BOTH felt that the families in their schools are isolated (sometime on purpose- don't want interference in their lives by outside people). They felt that in general, the access to healthy lifestyle choices that parents provide for their kids (nutrition and physical activity, and exposure to screen time) was limited. They also both felt (more so PV) that they saw a cycle of poverty within certain families and communities which prevents some kids from rising above their situations. There are research-based strategies that schools (who are willing to utilize, but do not have the staff or training) could utilize for early intervention (i.e. the work being done in Jackson County). There is a NEED to build resiliency in our communities that are more isolated than Viroqua and Westby. That could very well be a focus of a health and wellbeing institute educator in Vernon county.
- Working collaboratively with the health department on needs they are NOT able to meet due to funding/limitation in staffing (these are specific needs that were identified after interviewing Amy, WIC nutritionist, and Meaghan, FIT families nutritionist, and Sydney, sanitation worker in health dept. (unable to connect with Beth, would have been a great person to talk with). Overall, there is a laundry list of possible things that are needed in our community that the Health Dept. is unable to keep up with, as they do more with "putting out fires" then prevention. These are all things that might be something a H&W institute person could do:
  - Access to facilities to help people be physically active (all ages)
    - Strong bodies does not just have to be geared toward seniors, could be programming for all ages
    - Lack of facilities to provide classes such as strong seniors/bodies
  - Food deserts- Many rural communities do not have access to fresh food. Working on food security for those in the smaller communities across the county- master gardener programs/community garden programs, PSE work with existing food sources.
  - Drugs- we all know it's a problem in multiple sectors, but one person emphasized De Soto HS and the increased problem of vaping and "juuling" (½ the FB team got in trouble for doing it at school in between classes and were suspended). Behavioral Health and Substance Abuse prevention are related.
  - Clean Water- an issue brought up by both WIC and the sanitation person in the health dept. Is that, yes, they provide well testing, however, there is a need to

- educate the county that they actually need to do it. They are unaware of the need to test water annually and for ecoli as well as nitrates.
- There used to be a prenatal care coordination program for at risk moms that the health dept. Used to do, but couldn't do anymore. Basically an extension of health literacy, connecting people with the various resources they need to meet needs they may not be aware of such as vaccinations, breastfeeding support, etc. Another health literacy issue brought up is healthcare, especially for those who make too much for badgercare but not enough to be able to afford healthcare.
  - Currently, WIC provides education about lead and carseat education and they provide clinics for carseat education. Unfortunately, that only comes through Amy and the general population doesn't usually get to hear of info because they don't have enough bodies to get info out and do that training throughout the community. Here, again, there isn't a person to connect the info with the county
  - Smaller schools in our county have essentially cut out the "cooking classes" formerly provided by Family Consumer Science teachers, leaving the need to provide cooking classes, otherwise the kids just choose 'ready made' food choices and have limited knowledge of preparing healthier meals and food safety. (this just emphasizes that there will only be increased need for food and nutrition programming in our county)
  - There was discussion from the Sanitation worker about a need expressed to her from business owners in the community, specifically restaurant owners. They have issues with training employees specifically around the topic of food safety (date-marking and handwashing are the 2 most common violations she sees). Food safety education needs in our community extend beyond home canning (however also an important need in our community)
  - Behavioral health (mental health, substance use disorders, stress management) appears to be an area of potential interest for the county. See COMPASS NOW report points included in situational analysis document. This is a growing area of emphasis for Extension and will be a critical program pillar in the Health & Well-Being Institute. While an a primary emphasis might be in this area, the expectation would be that HWB EE will work across programs due to the cross cutting nature of health and well-being issues.
  - Youth and family programming- juvenile arrest rate **doubled** from 2015 to 2016 (compass report); youth mental health gap at 50% higher than any other county in the whole region (compass report); children living below federal poverty rate: 26% lower than any other county in our region. (compass)
    - One of my schools has someone coming in and doing "mindful movement" with kid. I know in Black River someone works with coping skills and helping school incorporate those things in the classroom to create more resilient children (instead of trying to catch them later in life with they begin to act out). I know that extension has done a lot with "mindfulness" and I see it as a need in the classroom EVERYDAY to help teachers have students better equip to cope with trauma and emotions related. (This is also reflected upon the vernon newsletter

that you shared... pg 11). Again, Marla Sutton is only able to reach those who are in her care. What about reaching kids who aren't there yet?

- Coalition building. Being at the table to help connect, clarify needs, identify areas for additional needed programming
  - I think even more than being at the tables that already exists, this position can identify areas of need in the county and bring the right people together to start addressing it with research based strategies and programs.
- The need for community events/associations that bring people together and bridge diversity gap. Many times we've talked in our committee meetings about service based volunteer associations (i.e. Lion's club etc.) that used to bring people together and now it does not exist-or may exist differently than what they are used to. Not sure how this would fit into the "health and wellbeing" institute though... (see pg. 142 of compass)
- Supporting schools- ACE's training (for reference look at pg. 13 of the Vernon newsletter)- I know that a lot of former family living colleagues worked with their community schools and stakeholders in the community have a "whole person" approach to behavior management using the ACE model.
- Anything the health department or VMH offers. They also mentioned economic development was covered with some group in the county and they were looking at DayCare issues.
- This educators programming would complement, challenge and further support existing agency provided services
- FoodWise programming is focused on limited income clientele. This educator would support FoodWise programming and in addition other clientele groups, resulting in more people being reached.
- Works with coping skills and helping school incorporate those things in the classroom to create more resilient children
- Help teachers have students better equip to cope with trauma and emotions related.
- For elder population, on a fixed income, money is tight, they are not likely to do a gym membership. In this situation, Strongbodies is a great alternative
- People look for a local touchpoint or contact person to provide an unbiased, independent perspective.
- UW-Extension brings non-biased research based information to clientele/producers/communities
- Help to address mental health issues in the counties (i.e. Programming in suicide prevention efforts- suicide prevention with farmers)

**To be reconciled:**

- Food preservation; canning
- Strongbodies; will need to be sun setted?
- Teen Court; eventually needs to come off the AED's plate. Could this educator over-see this program?

**Review Situational Analysis Identified Needs:** (in separate document)



University of Wisconsin-Extension

## Extension Institute for Health and Well-Being PROGRAM IMPACTS

### FOOD AND NUTRITION



#### About FoodWise:

FoodWise is federally-funded by the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program-Education (SNAP-Ed) and the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP). We empower Wisconsin residents with limited incomes to achieve healthy lives and reduce health disparities.

*"Because of this class, I have made many changes in my life. We eat more fresh veggies and fruit. We have also switched from white rice to brown and wheat spaghetti instead of regular."*

*- Theresa, Milwaukee, WI*

**88% OF**  
OF ALL YOUTH & ADULT  
SNAP-ED PARTICIPANTS  
INTEND TO EAT  
MORE SERVINGS OF  
FRUITS & VEGETABLES  
FOLLOWING THEIR  
2017 LESSONS

### FOOD SECURITY



Promoting access and availability of safe, healthy, affordable and culturally appropriate food

#### Growing produce to support the emergency food system

Growing Together WI is a partnership between UW-Extension and Master Gardener volunteers, to plant community gardens and donate fresh produce to local food pantries.

*"Pantry clients would walk in the door and say, 'wow' when they saw the fresh produce. Not only is the produce something they don't typically see at the pantry, but it was the first thing they saw when walking in the door."*

*- Master Gardener volunteer*

**1,831 LBS**  
OF FRESH  
PRODUCE  
WERE DONATED  
TO 18 SETTINGS  
IN 2017

### FOOD SAFETY & PRESERVATION



Educating individuals of all ages about safe food practices and behaviors when choosing, preparing, handling and preserving food

#### Hosting food preservation workshops to increase food safety

Growing interest in home food preservation—and concerns about food safety—is increasing demand for UW-Extension food safety and preservation classes and resources.

*"I will take this information back to my mother who has been canning for years."*

*- Workshop participant*

**91% OF**  
LEARNERS  
REPORTED CONFIDENCE  
IN THEIR ABILITY TO  
SAFELY PRESERVE  
FOOD AT HOME  
(UP FROM 46% IN 2013)

## CHRONIC DISEASE PREVENTION



Empowering individuals and families with tools to adopt positive lifestyle choices to prevent chronic disease

### Developing strength and resilience among older adults

StrongWomen™, developed at Tufts University, is a national evidence-based community exercise and nutrition program targeted to midlife and older adults.

*"This is something I enjoy doing. It's relaxing. Everybody's friendly and we all work together as a team."*

*--StrongBodies participant, Milwaukee*

**IN 2017 95%  
OF PARTICIPANTS  
SAID THEIR  
HEALTH  
HAD IMPROVED**

## BEHAVIORAL HEALTH & SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION



Creating environments that promote healthy development, mental and social well-being, resilience and reduce the likelihood for substance abuse and other unhealthy behaviors

### Building mental health in Jackson County

Community agencies partner to tighten the network of stress management and mental health education for youth and families.

*"You guys are helping others save lives. I think of you as super hero trainers." – Teen participant*

**BETWEEN 2012-2018  
MORE THAN  
1,500 TEENS  
AND ADULTS  
HAVE BEEN TRAINED  
TO HELP PREVENT  
SUICIDE**

## HEALTH LITERACY



Communicating in clear and plain language to help people make well-informed decisions about their health

### Simplifying language and accessible design to support healthcare decision making

Working in collaboration with Covering Wisconsin, UW-Extension educators increase access to reliable healthcare information in response to a changing health insurance landscape.

*"It's good to know there's experienced help out there to get us through the [healthcare] maze" – Pleased consumer*

**2,262  
PEOPLE WERE  
ASSISTED IN  
GETTING AND USING  
HEALTH COVERAGE  
IN 2017**

### CONTACT:

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**UW  
Extension**  
University of Wisconsin-Extension

University of Wisconsin-Extension

# Extension Institute for Health and Well-Being

*Creating opportunities for health for all Wisconsin residents.*

**We meet people where they are** with locally-relevant education in community-based settings.

**We make the healthy choice the easy choice** through policy, systems and environmental change (PSE).

## Our programs:



**Empower** individuals and families with tools to adopt positive health behaviors, including healthy eating, active living, and stress management, while preventing life-limiting behaviors such as substance abuse



**Collaborate** with partners to address hunger and ensure all individuals have access to healthy, affordable and culturally appropriate foods



**Engage** individuals in learning about health care coverage options and facilitate well-informed decision making



**Support** community coalitions in creating opportunities for everyone to make healthy choices and achieve better health for all



*"I am physically stronger, and able to do my normal daily activities without fear of falling. More importantly, I gained control of my life. I discovered that my body and mind are resilient. I discovered that I am indeed a Strong Woman."*

*- Deb M.*

## UW-Extension is in your community.

UW-Extension delivers education, programming and research where people live, work, learn and play - in the garden, in schools, food pantries and community centers. We also work to support healthy lifestyles upstream, by focusing on policy, systems and environmental change.

## Why partner with Extension?

**Our programs work.** We use evidence-based programs and University resources.

**We have a statewide reach.** We provide programming across Wisconsin.

**We're locally relevant.** We focus on place-based programming, adapting services to local contexts. Our staff are rooted in the communities in which they work.

## CONTACT:

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**UW**  
**Extension**  
University of Wisconsin-Extension



## Joshua L. Goede

### AODA Opportunity w/Monroe County Safe Community Coalition

The Agents for change have made progress with developing a lesson plan for Tobacco Presentations in Cashton. They then want to tackle an Alcohol presentation. We have also recruited some school members and more 4-H members to the effort.

### Fort McCoy

The Agent has met with Ft. McCoy School Age staff and established three goals for the year.

1. Spring sessions for 3-5 weeks one day events
2. Summer help for getting ready to participate in fair
3. Communication for programs that can be sent to families. This would help them participate in county camps and events.

### Committee Process

The Agent has started the year with a couple of committees. The agent is working on a manageable schedule that allows for tasks to be completed on time and by the volunteers.

The Shooting Sports Committee is off to a good start. We have meetings set up with the Festival of Arts Committee and the Fur, Fin, & Feather Show Committee as well.

### Advanced Space Academy

The Agent has been planning the 2019 ASA. There will be 25 youth across

### End of Year Processes

On November 10, Monroe County 4-H held its annual 4-H Family Celebration. We were able to have a potluck meal and enjoy our 4-H friends as we acknowledged our volunteers for years of service. We also congratulated youth who completed the Record books.

### SPIN Clubs

The Agent has been working with other counties to establish SPecial INterest memberships. The idea is that members will be able to enroll for one or two projects. The project must have a published schedule, at least 6 meetings, and the required number of hours of study. SPIN Members will still be required to attend meetings and participate in the food stand to be eligible to participate in Monroe County Fair.

### Youth Interviews

It was an amazing year for this process we had 7 youth submit resumes and cover letters and participate in interviews for funds to travel in 2019. There were 4 youth interviewed for the Space Camp Experience in April. We also candidates for Citizenship Washington Focus, American Spirit, and the WI 4-H & Youth Conference all this coming summer. The interview committee had positive things to say about all our candidates. They were amazed that even the 5<sup>th</sup> grade youth were well poised and answered questions thoughtfully and thoroughly.

## Continuing Programs

- **Jr. Leaders**
  - Helping with Sparta Christmas Lights Dec 15
  - Planning Clover College on Jan 19, 2019
- **Volunteers in Preparation**
  - There are two classes scheduled Nov. 15 at 5:30 am and Dec. 2 at 2:30 pm.
  - We have gained 8 new volunteers so far this year.

### COMING SOON

- Dec. 15- Jr. Leaders Work Sparta Lights
- Jan 19- Clover College
- March 2 Festival of Arts

## Forestry & Parks Report (November) – Ziegler

### Forestry:

- Active Timber Sales
  - 142 New Lyme
  - 151 New Lyme
- Timber sale establishment
  - New Lyme
  - Byron
- Scarification work – New Lyme
- Prescribed burn
- Tri-creek public access
- Summer Tour Planning
- Invasive Spraying – New Lyme
- Boundary Work
  - New Lyme
  - Byron

### Parks:

- Preparation for winter
- Safety Meeting
- Health Insurance meeting

### Snowmobile:

- Storm damage work



## November 13, 2018 -- Soil & Water Conservationist's Report

### Christina Mulder

- **Activities**

- Surveying for 2019 projects
- Presented at the Annual Trout Unlimited Tour on Beaver Creek
- Presented to 150 Sparta Middle Schoolers at the School Forest on topography, forest health, & took them on a guided hike along the trails
- Present to the Sparta STEM Academy at Randy Giraud's stream project. Also present was the DNR Water Quality Biologist & Fisheries Team.
- Took GPS points on the wells at the Monroe County Landfill & created maps for Garbage Gail regarding cropland rentals
- Filmed Leo Fisher (Tree Farm Award Winner) & Mark Henthorne (Conservation Farmer Award Winner) so a short video can be made for the Stewardship Awards Banquet in January. Two juniors at Cashton High School are producing the films.

### Bryce Richardson

- **Activities**

- Surveying and inventorying sites for 2019 construction.

# November 13th, 2018 - Staff Report

Bob Micheel- County Conservationist

## **LCD Business:**

- Land Use Planner: Received final approval and budget for the new position. Position advertisement will be going out soon, with a goal of having a person in place by January 2019.
- Stewardship Awards: Winners were notified and interviews on-going. History plaque and pins are being developed for previous Monroe County Award winners. The Cashton HS will work with the LCD to document the award winners in a DVD format for the banquet.
- Monroe County CWD Task Force – Promoting on various media sites: CWD sampling, proper carcass disposal, and deer donation, prior to the gun season.
- Monroe County Invasive Species Working Group – A fall workshop (Plant ID, treatment, etc.) was held October 11<sup>th</sup> at the Scott-Town Hall, targeting private landowners and municipal road crews, with good participation.
- School Programs: STEM program field day held October 29<sup>th</sup> on Beaver Creek; along with the Driftless Tour on October 16<sup>th</sup>. Averaged 60 people per event.
- Tri-Creek Property – The gate was re-opened on the east side to allow public access, renter harvested crops.
- PL566 Dams – Emergency funding was received for CC24 (Peterson) & CC25 (Baltz) from NRCS. Due to weather conditions, repairs will be held off until spring of 2019. More options will be coming forth for the 3 breached structures, hopefully by the end of the year.

## **Meeting Schedule:**

- December 4<sup>th</sup> – Monroe County Stewardship Awards Committee
- December 6<sup>th</sup> – Invasive Species Working Group Meeting
- December 6-7<sup>th</sup> – County Conservationist Meeting
- December 11<sup>th</sup> – Natural Resource & Extension Committee Meeting