



## Extension Winnebago County Review

NOVEMBER 2020

*The Extension Winnebago County team continues to extend research-based information and provide outreach education programs to the residents of Winnebago County and beyond. Please take a few moments to explore some of the highlights of the last month.*

### 4-H Youth Development - Dana Berger

- **Halloween Costume and Pumpkin Contest:** We had 8 winners for our virtual Halloween Contest this year! Check out our 4-H Facebook page for photos: <https://www.facebook.com/4hwinnebagocounty>.
- **Record Books:** We are in the process of evaluating record books that were turned in by youth. We did not get as many as last year due to COVID-19 limiting programming, but the ones we received definitely demonstrate some high quality learning taking place!
- **Fall Forum and WI Leadership Council Elections:** Nov 6th-7th was Fall Forum; we had multiple Winnebago County youth attend (virtually) to learn about new ways and ideas to improve 4-H programming and fun. Our very own Maria Zillges was a nominee for the WI Leadership Council and was elected!
- **4-H Charters and Financial Reports:** Annual renewal charters have been audited and are in the process of submission to the state.
- **Virtual Holiday Make N Take Boxes:** We are encouraging county-wide activities that can be safely done during COVID-19. The Holiday box will feature all the supplies needed to make a ribbon wreath, ornaments, and sock gnomes. We are also featuring follow along zooms for each project in the box.
- **YAC (Youth Advisory Committee):** As we plan for some club officer training, we are guiding our YAC leaders to put together a virtual escape room that youth officers can participate in to learn more about their 4-H club officer positions and duties.
- **Holiday Parade for Parkview:** On Dec 13th at 3:30pm we will be having a Drive -Thru Parade through the Parkview Grounds for residents to enjoy. 4-H families will have their vehicle decorated and play music!

### 4-H Youth & Science - Sarah Thompson

- Have been helping evaluate **4-H Record Books**. We have shared some of them at Winnebago County Board Meetings in the past to show you all of the wonderful work our youth are doing and learning. Hopefully we will be able to do that again in the future. Even with COVID-19, our youth are learning and doing amazing things!
- Have been working with Dana on designing **Holiday Make N Take Boxes** and will be hosting zoom meetings that go along with each activity.
- Have scheduled and re-scheduled lots of **After School Programs**. We are testing out a way of reaching some of the students in Menasha via Google Meet at their homes rather than at school.
- Have hosted a variety of **4-H Fun in 15 Minutes on Friday afternoons** via Zoom. We had a fun few rounds of 4-H Bingo this past week---prizes included!
- Am currently working on a **Cloverbud newsletter**.

## Financial Education - Todd Wenzel

- **Rent Smart:** There were 46 total participants in the July, September, and October online courses. 37 participants earned the Rent Smart certificate. 12 of those 37 are Winnebago County residents. 93% of respondents said that the knowledge gained in this course will help them obtain appropriate housing; 90% of respondents said that this class will help them keep their housing in the future.
- **Rent Smart Train-The-Trainer:** Two-day training for facilitators planned for December. 43 educators from 10 states currently registered.
- **Encouraging Financial Conversations:** EFC regional training planned for January 2021 with four other Extension educators. EFC is financial education presented to frontline staff of agencies that have face-to-face conversations with clients about finances.
- **Winnebago County Eviction Prevention Task Force:** 42 evictions filed in October despite CDC eviction moratorium in place. 547 total evictions filed through November 11. Filings have exceeded evictions filed in 2016 and 2017 and are on-pace to exceed 2018. Task force is working to hire a facilitator to guide the group through the next phase of work, including community engagement.
- **Housing Coalitions:** Attended October and November meetings of Winnebagoland Housing Coalition and Fox Cities Housing Coalition. Presenting as the featured agency to FCHC on November 18.
- **Habitat for Humanity:** Working with Family Services Coordinator to create financial education programming for non-English speaking families. Extension materials currently being translated into Spanish, Hmong, Swahili, Kirundi, and Dari.

## Human Development & Relationships/Health & Well Being - Mandi Dornfeld

- Hosted two zoom Grandparent Meetings with good success, planning for Thanksgiving and Christmas; grandparents are reporting high levels of school struggle.
- Achieved accreditation in the Triple P Parenting Program; will be partnered with Headstart and building a community advisory board around childhood in Winnebago County.
- Joined the Winnebago County Wellness Committee.
- Continue to publish a weekly newsletter and a (new) monthly school newsletter.
- Assigned to the Search and Screen committee for the Associate Dean of Youth, Family, and Communities.
- Lead a team to create a public use toolkit to safely consider all considerations before returning to face-to-face programming and work.
- Presented at a local (National) Women's Leadership conference on workplace resilience.
- **Oshkosh West High School:** Rent Smart rental application reading presentation planned for business class students on November 13.

## FoodWise - Kris Soper

- Started direct virtual teaching with SOAR this month. It has gone very well. Every Wednesday, I am part of a virtual cooking class where I do a 20-30 minute nutrition education lesson. It is one of only a few that is happening around the State.
- This month, we are participating in a Mapping workshop with Teresa Curtis. This allows us to see some spots in our counties that may need more help, among many other things. We have a few more lessons to go with this workshop. Should be finished up in November.

- I just finished a Teen Cuisine training along with Canva pro instructions. My available time will be spent on learning more about google classrooms. FoodWise and Christi are taking a step to work more closely with WIC and local pantries in all of our counties.

### Community Development - Mia Ljung

- Coordinated monthly programming with the [ColorBold Business Association](#) in partnership with Appleton Public Library's "Small Business – Big Impact", CAP-Services, and business owners of color on the 10/26 virtual event "Risky Business: Let's Talk Liability for Running a Business During a Pandemic" - we had a really engaged panel and participation. I also hosted a ColorBold Spotlight of the Month with Andrea Toms. Oshkosh resident, Andrea, launched her online boutique [StyledByMarieAndre](#) this summer.
- Presented at Toward One Wisconsin and Fond du Lac StartUp Week on the research study "Black Business Owners Speak: Interviewing 48 Entrepreneurs in Northeast Wisconsin". Presentation of the 2019 interview study that was a partnership of Fit Oshkosh, Inc., and Extension.
- Facilitated the second ColorBold Committee meeting with three new committee members joining.
- Judged applications from small business owners in the recent We're All Innovating grant.

### Agriculture - John Thompson

- Zoom Meetings - Planning of Programming
  - Crisis on the Farm Webinar Series - December Topic: Stress Management
  - Crops & Soils - Formulating plan of work for 2021
  - Pesticide Applicator Training (PAT) - Course of action for 2021
  - Meat Animal Board President - Michelle Wesenberg - Upcoming educational programs for youth
  - Livestock - Processing meat animals & direct marketing
- Webinars Attended
  - Crisis on the Farm - Year End Financial Discussions
  - Pest Management Update - 3 days
  - Grazing
    - Gabe Brown - Regenerative Agriculture as it relates to grazing
    - Economics of Grazing
  - Grassworks (Grazing Group) - Fall Management of Pasture
- Webinars Scheduled to Attend
  - Practical Solutions to Increase Lamb & Kid Survival
  - Winter Shelter for Small Ruminants
  - Grassworks
- Fielded Phone Calls and Emails from Producers about the Following Concerns & Issues:
  - Fall harvest management of alfalfa
  - Corn drying management
  - Soybean weed control, final evaluation
  - Late fall yard grass establishment

## Horticulture - Kimberly Miller

- The Urban Forestry Workshop series was completed.
- The Foundations in Horticulture class is currently in its 4th week out of 12. The class is a mix of reading, videos, interactive content, and a discussion board in an asynchronous format. In addition, the first of 3 live Zoom meetings and the first of 4 live online labs have been completed. The class will continue until the end of January 2021.
- Continuing to engage the local Master Gardener volunteers through zoom meetings, including but not limited to the Business and Board meetings. Working with a committee of volunteers who are making a proposal for a new volunteer opportunity to engage participants during COVID-19 and beyond that could serve as a statewide model.
- The Gardens finished out the first year at its new location. Held meeting with partners to determine and coordinate the remaining construction items that need to be done. The Highway Department will work on items after the gardens close (Nov. 1) as time and weather allows.
- Continuing to collaborate and lead an effort to create a project management process that identifies and aligns Master Gardener volunteer projects with program initiatives, while tracking progress and reporting outcomes.