



Agriculture

Jerry Clark | *Regional Crops & Soils Educator*



A presentation for barley researchers, consultants, and producers where participants learned about winter barley production and cropping systems to continue future research and inclusion in cropping systems for farm crop diversity and profitability.

A seminar for agricultural finance lenders where participants learned about emerging agricultural economic issues to improve lending decisions. The goal of the program is to provide university-based research, information, and market analysis for regional financial leaders to make informed decisions. *(Partnered with Lyssa Seefeld)*

Agriculture

Lyssa Seefeld | *Regional Dairy Educator*



A seminar for agricultural finance lenders where participants learned about emerging agricultural economic issues to improve lending decisions. The goal of the program is to provide university-based research, information, and market analysis for regional financial leaders to make informed decisions. *(Partnered with Jerry Clark)*

A live, on-line meeting series for farmers and dairy industry professionals, where participants learned the latest research and applications regarding developments in genetic evaluations, feed efficiency research, methane emissions, and dairy cow resiliency. The goal of this effort was to increase knowledge of the latest UW-Madison research on the impacts that genetics plays on dairy cattle.

Horticulture

Margaret Murphy | *Regional Horticulture Educator*



Creating a dish garden with succulents for people living with dementia (and their care partners) that offers a hands-on experience to stimulate the senses, enjoy social interactions, and encourage the use of motor skills while learning about indoor plant care.

A container garden program for the public where participants learn strategies to grow successful planters of herbs, vegetables, and flowers with the opportunity to start an indoor herb garden. This effort is designed to encourage people of all ages to garden for health and beautification indoors or outdoors or with limited space.

A winter garden class on the origin of some of our most common garden crops for youth in partnership with the Boys and Girls Club of the Greater Chippewa Valley. The goal of this effort is to help make cultural connections to our food and create a plan to plant a global themed garden this spring.



Community Development

Vacant | *Regional Community Development Educator*

Health and Well-Being

Sandy Tarter

FoodWise Coordinator



Joy Weisner

FoodWise Educator



Jael Wolf

FoodWise Educator



Hillarie Roth

FoodWise Educator



Participation in the Health Dunn Right - Chronic Disease Prevention Action Team monthly meeting, including active support for Winter Fun in Dunn initiative. The goal of this effort is to help guide objectives and strategies that support initiatives to improve the health of local residents. Prizes are given monthly for submitted photos. Partnered with Dunn County Historical Society Walking Program. Try it out for only \$3- walking available mornings Tuesday-Friday from 8:00am - 11:00am.

Participation in the Dunn County Community Conversations to review results from the Community Health Needs Assessment. Share your thoughts regarding our community priorities until February 12th deadline by taking the following survey: [2024 Community Conversations Handout Survey \(surveymonkey.com\)](https://www.surveymonkey.com)

A series of virtual statewide strength training sessions (StrongBodies) where older adults learn best practices along with nutrition and health education. Participants engage in regular strength training exercises to improve strength, balance, and flexibility so they can stay healthy and socially connected. We have 48 Dunn residents taking part in our Tuesday/Thursday morning virtual StrongBodies classes!

“I have a lot of physical limitations, and this program is helping to strengthen me. It allows me to be able to function better with everyday life.”
~StrongBodies Participant – January 2024

The FoodWise team completed *the Intersection of Diet, Nutrition, and Physical Activity in Mental Health* training.



Human Development and Relationships

Luisa Gerasimo | *Human Development and Relationships Educator*



A series of meetings with United Way of Dunn County's board president and a volunteer in order to create a new web page for the organization so that people looking for information could find correct contact information, postal address, giving and volunteer options. The previous page had not been updated since 2019, and was full of incorrect information, including a physical address to a building that had been demolished.

An in-person meeting with the middle and high school principal of a rural school district to share Extension resources, especially those focused on helping families with the goal of helping more families in the region access parenting and relationship support.

A 1 hour lunch and learn for participants from the Dunn County Clerk of Courts Office aimed at increased engagement and collegiality. The workshop was designed with input from the Clerk of Court to help the clerks work together more effectively.

You were very thorough. Your work on this project gets the staff thinking more about families and how they are impacted by the facility.

-Jail Programming Colleague

Positive Youth Development

Zachary Rozmiarek | *4-H Program Educator*



Planning for a camp counselor training retreat. This retreat is a fun weekend for our camp counselors to build teamwork and relationships with us as 4-H Educators, plus provides required training that supports them in being the best camp counselors that they can be.

Planning has begun for the 2024 Art U. The Area 6 Educators have met with our partners at UW-Stout. We promoted the program through newsletters, social media, posters and a press release. We also organized, purchased, and distributed supplies. Finally, we had a meeting with the UW- Stout interns to provide insight and create connections.

Camp counselor applications have been received and reviewed. The selected counselors were contacted for an interview. The interviews were held at five different times throughout the month. The Educators prepared for the interviews by setting the times and creating questions that were relevant to the age group and the situation.

Hiring older youth as 4-H camp counselor staff provides them practice with filling out applications, asking for letters of recommendation, and participating in an interview. This process builds life skills and also helps us choose the best staff for our 4-H camp.



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
DUNN COUNTY

January 2024 Report

Area Extension Director

Kristen Bruder | *Area Extension Director – Dunn, Chippewa, and Eau Claire Counties*



Please reach out with questions and ideas. The role of the AED is much like the department head in the county. Below is a brief overview of the role of AEDs: Extension fully invests in Area Extension Directors (AEDs) who oversee an area. These administrative positions are responsible for partnership management, staff development, financial management and program coordination.

Through the many interactions the AED has with county partners and local educators, the AED develops a solid understanding of the local needs and county priorities and helps to align Extension educational programs to ensure the programs address county needs. Educators also communicate local needs to their programmatic Institutes which collectively identify opportunities to address statewide needs.
