



## *Agriculture*

*Josh Kamps, Regional Crops & Soils Educator*  
*Jackie McCarville, Regional Dairy Educator*



*The Extension Agriculture Institute is your connection to the latest University of Wisconsin-Madison research. Our five program areas; Agriculture Water Quality, Crops and Soils, Dairy and Livestock, Farm Management, and Horticulture, are here to educate and respond to the needs of the agriculture community while providing resources that promote economic and environmental sustainability in Wisconsin. We apply research to challenges facing communities and businesses.*

### Ground Water Quality

A groundwater quality discussion focused on water testing trends and agricultural tools available to reduce nitrate movement into groundwater drinking sources for farmers, agronomists, agriculture professionals, and rural property owners.

### Manure Composting and Management

An educational event for farmers, custom applicators, conservation professionals, and researchers to collectively share and learn the latest manure management strategies to improve water quality, crop production, and soil health. Demonstrating recommended processes for mortality composting and manure composting as low risk alternatives for managing mortalities and raw manure to enhance natural resource quality and increase on-farm profitability.

### Drought Readiness Program

The Special "Drought Readiness Program" was a highlighted discussion within the Badger Crop Connect Series providing timely crop management information to assist with decision making for WI growers, agronomists, and conservation professionals during the early season flash drought of 2023.



### Dairy Cattle Nutrition

An in-person event for Iowa County 4-H youth where participants learned about newborn calf care and feeding dairy animals a total mixed ration. The purpose of this event was the help 4-H dairy project members increase their knowledge on dairy cattle nutrition and newborn calf care.

### Badger Dairy Insight

A dairy production and management newsletter for farmers, managers, employees, and agribusiness professionals, where subscribers learned about dairy facilities and ventilation, reproduction, animal well-being, nutrition, and Extension dairy production and management resources. This effort was designed to provide a timely and reliable source of dairy management news and updates to help them improve farm business viability, environmental sustainability, and food safety through animal welfare.



## *Health and Well-Being*

### *Bridget Mouchon, Health & Well-being Educator*

*The Extension Institute for Health & Well-Being works to catalyze positive change in Wisconsin communities to promote health and well-being. Our research-based programs are focused on food and nutrition security, chronic disease prevention, mental health promotion, substance use prevention, and access to health care. Rooted in both urban and rural communities, we're working together to help solve the state's most pressing well-being needs and to ensure that all Wisconsinites have the opportunity to live stronger, healthier lives.*

#### Youth Prevention Outreach

Planning for a collective youth prevention outreach strategy for health coalitions in collaboration with organization leadership. The goal of this effort is to reach more people with our shared prevention messages and programs, so that the community begins to use a shared language of prevention and strengths that helps build a culture of health, wellness and recovery.

#### Community Health Improvement Planning

Planning for a Community Health Improvement Planning (CHIP) process for Lafayette County community members in collaboration with the Lafayette County Health Department. The goal of this effort is to structure the presentation and facilitation so that the community understands the health data and selects manageable priorities for action, action steps, and evaluation/assessment.

#### School Registration Outreach

A school registration outreach event for Spanish-speaking families, where we shared community health resources and invited families to our upcoming Spanish language Parent Cafes to increase awareness of and connections to community resources, including the Community Health Worker supervised by this educator and increase attendance at future Spanish-language educational events.



*Maggie Milcarek, FoodWise Nutrition Coordinator  
Kathy Lange, FoodWise Nutrition Educator*



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**Harvest of the Month**

Planning for Harvest of the Month with eligible schools. Reaching out to partner schools to gauge interest in participating in Harvest of the Month for the upcoming school year. Wisconsin Harvest of the Month is a statewide campaign that encourages kids and families to eat more fruits and vegetables. Each month schools showcase one seasonal, Wisconsin-grown fruit or vegetable. Students taste, explore and learn about the importance of eating fruits and vegetables.



**Second Series of Strong Bodies**

Planning for a second series of Strong Bodies classes in Lafayette County in partnership with Health and Wellbeing Educator and Community Health Worker. Reaching out to potential partners, meeting with Extension colleagues, and beginning to recruit participants. A series of bilingual strength training sessions offered in person, where older adults learn best practices and learn 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.

**Farmers Market and FoodWise Partnership**

Support for a coalition consisting of Farmers Market Managers and FoodWise staff in Southwest Wisconsin. The goal of this effort is to strengthen community partnerships, empower members through sharing of best practices, develop and disseminate resources, and promote equitable access to healthy and local foods.



## *Positive Youth Development*

### *Hailee Kammerud, 4-H Youth Development Educator*

*The Extension Institute of Positive Youth Development prepares the youth of today to become the effective, empathetic adults of tomorrow. Our research-based youth enrichment programs like teens in governance build youth and adult capacity and partnerships that help both sides grow. 4-H clubs, camps and afterschool programs give young people the hands-on experiences they need to develop an understanding of themselves and the world.*



#### Cloverbud Fall Fun Day

Planning for a half-day camp for youth in grades K-2nd (Cloverbuds) in collaboration with Green County Extension, where youth will be able to explore various Fall Fun activities, including, but not limited to fall-themed arts-n-crafts, snacks, games, and 4-H connections. Older 4-H youth (Ambassadors) will connect with the younger youth by sharing their own experiences in the 4-H program, therefore establishing relationships through connection. Additionally, Cloverbuds will be engaged in activities and experiences with older youth and adult volunteers.

#### Fill the Floral Hall

The 4-H Program Educator provides support of 4-H volunteer-led programming, Fill the Floral Hall, that was started at the grassroots level by two 4-H parents that wanted to see more opportunities for 4-H youth to gather and connect on project-based programming through sparks, belonging, relationships, and engagement. As the educator, I support the lead 4-H volunteer in planning the year-long project, reaching out to volunteers or community members that have expertise in project areas, acquiring of expertise, and materials needed to support the youth.

#### Community Garden



Collaborating and planning with Agriculture Educator(s), FoodWise Nutrition Coordinator and Educators, possibly Farmer's Markets, and community partnerships for a community garden. Through the development and support of a community garden county residents will be empowered to make healthy choices without the barrier of resources. With the engagement of community members and 4-H youth, relationships between individuals and connections with food will be made possible. The hope is that through this collaboration, not only with the community engage in sparks of healthy meal planning and choices, but the correlation with food preservation could also be taught and experienced.

#### Lafayette County Extension Open House

Planning an Extension Open House at the end of September welcoming in the 4-H and non-4-H community to tour the new office space, as well as to showcase the Youth Photography Challenge winners' photos. By creating opportunities for connection and a sense of belonging more community members will get to experience the vastness that 4-H has to offer.

