



Extension Mission: *We teach, learn, lead, and serve, connecting the University of Wisconsin, and engaging with them in transforming lives and communities.*

Community Development

PROVIDES EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING TO ASSIST LEADERS, COMMUNITIES, AND ORGANIZATIONS REALIZE THEIR FULLEST POTENTIAL.

MICHELLE GRIMM, EDUCATOR



Michelle Grimm

Community Economic Analysis for Rural Wisconsin Communities

Gilman applied for and received the Community Economic Analysis for Rural Wisconsin Communities (CEA-RWC) Pilot Initiative supported by the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC). I will be working with the statewide team and in support of the Gilman project.

As the Wisconsin economy builds back from the COVID pandemic recession, many rural communities struggle with identifying opportunities and strategies to move community economic development efforts forward. These rural communities often do not have the needed resources (i.e., staff, money, or local expertise) to engage in comprehensive community economic development planning. The Community Economic Analysis for Rural Wisconsin Communities (CEA-RWC) pilot program is a joint effort between the University of Wisconsin, the Division of Extension, and the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation to bring a structured community economic development strategic planning program to a set of rural Wisconsin communities. Information will be brought to all Taylor communities, and it is anticipated that some elements of the program can be applied to them.

Nonprofit Leadership Training. *Through trainings we foster collaboration and a culture of co-creation through peer learning and network building.* I am co-teaching this series with my colleagues. This is an educational series cohort model where participants gain skills and knowledge as they relate to fundraising and donor relations. We are currently holding a 5 week workshop where participants will walk away well-versed regarding what’s working and not working amongst peers in fundraising. Two Taylor nonprofits are participating with four attendees.

Outreach with the Health Department and Aspirus

After the work we did with the UW- Extension outreach grant we identified how to better serve the “plain communities” in Taylor County, including providing educational opportunities for the community.

SERVING OUR PLAIN COMMUNITIES IN WISCONSIN

Thursday, November 17

Attend in person at NTC - Medford Campus or Online

General Sessions - 11:30AM or 5:30PM
 Health Care Session - 1:30PM
 Service Provider Session - 3:30PM



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Agriculture

PROVIDING RESEARCH-BASED LIVESTOCK AND FARM BUSINESS MANAGEMENT INFORMATION, RESOURCES AND DECISION-MAKING TOOLS TO FARMERS AND AGRIBUSINESSES.

SANDY STUTTGEN, EDUCATOR



Sandy Stuttgen

Cow/Calf Producers Tour: The goal of this tour was to improve cow-calf producers' economic sustainability by learning beef management tips from three upper Michigan beef producers while also visiting the MI State University Upper Peninsula Research and Extension Center. Twenty-seven individuals from Taylor, Clark, Marathon, Lincoln, Ashland, Chippewa, Price, Adams, and Shawano counties attended the September 13-14, 2022, bus tour with the North Central WI Cattlemen's Association. 70% rated the tour as excellent; 30% as good (from choices Excellent/Good/Fair/Poor).

Sandy facilitated this bus tour and participants increased their knowledge about future veterinary drug availability from her presentation by 1.2 points (using a 5-point Likert scale evaluation). Steps they intend to take because of her presentation include 'establish our new vet client patient relationship with new veterinary practice for our farm [to acquire prescription products]', 'get a relationship with a vet' and 'update [my herd health protocols] with vet's availability and expertise.'

Sandy asked the participating farms and the research station to discuss biosecurity and animal handling facilities. Because of what they learned on the tour, participants increased their knowledge about on-farm biosecurity by 1.1 points and efficient on-farm animal handling systems by 1.0 points (both using a 5-point Likert scale evaluation).

Knowledge gained impacts the animals raised and the producer's bottom line. The participants' herd size average was 57 beef cows (ranges 8-280), marketing on average 29 feeder calves (range 4-100), backgrounding 5 (range 2-48) and finishing on average 15 steers (4-30). 26% of the participants indicated a \$6-10/head value for the changes they made to their operation because of what they learned during Extension beef workshops; 21% valued these changes at \$11-20/head.



Determining Impact Bovine Artificial Insemination (AI) Programming Has for Dairy and Beef Producers

Extension agriculture educators Heather Schlessler (Marathon County) and Sandy Stuttgen (Taylor County) surveyed dairy and beef producers who completed the 2015 - April 2022 bovine Artificial Insemination (AI) Course to determine the course's impact. Past course participants (144) were mailed (once with return postage provided) and emailed (weekly for one month) the evaluation survey. Impacts noted (8% response rate) due to their course participation include:

- One who decreased the number of bulls used on their farm by one animal, saving the farm \$1,445.
- Participants bred 94% of the available animals (3,760) during the time of this survey, 3,760 animals, saving the farms \$100,242 in breeding fees that would have been charged by breeding services.
- Three farms started using estrous synchronization protocols, and four started determining pregnancy status of their cattle.



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Written testimonials include: 'The calves and heifers that come out of cows with AI's superior genetics have been AMAZING! My husband was not convinced we should take the extra time and money to do AI. After the last few years and then, the first calf of this season completely changed his mind.' 'The course was great help in timing breeding. We have done much better than before.' 'Was a really great course! Helped us move our [breeding] program forward.'

Schlesser and Stuttgen presented their bovine artificial insemination at the October 2022 Chad Reid National Association of County Agriculture Agents (NACAA) Western Regional Professional Improvement Conference in Tucson, AZ.



Photo caption: UW-Madison Spanish interpreter translating the presentation for three Hispanic dairy workers participating in the October 2022 AI Course.



Photo caption: Dairy and beef producers learning female bovine anatomy during the Oct 2022 AI Course.



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Wisconsin 4-H



UW-MADISON EXTENSION



Julie Diepenbrock

TAYLOR COUNTY 4-H HAS OVER **200** YOUTH AND ADULTS WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP TO PROVIDE YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN LEADERSHIP AND LIFE SKILLS.

JULIE DIEPENBROCK, EDUCATOR

October is the month for National 4-H Week

October 2-8 was National 4-H week and many of our clubs had their first club meeting of the new 4-H year. Countrysiders, Liberty and Diamond Lakers all decorated windows in local businesses for National 4-H week. Olivia Krause, Brooke Rudolph, Max Klussendorf, and Kaytlyn Stunkel had recorded radio spots during the Fair to be played on K99 during National 4-H Week. Posters were hung and announcements were made about 4-H in the local Elementary/Middle Schools along with brochures that students could pick up. 4-H displays and flyers were set up at local libraries and post offices. Most clubs elected their new officers for the 2022-2023 4-H year and plan for the year. Club Charters are due November 1. Planning and organizing is a great life skill that 4-H members learn during these meetings. Discovery Day on Saturday, October 29 will be at Huey's Hideaway and provide activities for youth to introduce them to 4-H. 4-H members and leaders are planning to be in the Harvest Day Parade, then the Taylor County 4-H Youth Leaders Organization (YLO) collects canned goods for the Food Bank as a Trick or Treat for the Hungry activity for community service.



Rib Lake School Forest Day



4-H was invited to participate in the Rib Lake School Forest Day this year. October 6th was a chilly fall day to partner with Michelle Grimm at the Rib Lake School Forest Day. We led a session on tree and leaf identification where each youth gathered a few leaves and then all of the students combined their leaves and sorted them into piles based on tree types. Michelle also taught them about seed dispersal. Youth were able to identify several different species of trees.



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Annual Financial Reports/Charters/Volunteer Trainings

4-H Clubs don't just happen without substantial behind the scenes planning/training/reporting. Clubs and Groups that have a checking and/or savings account must annually complete and submit the Annual Financial Report and supporting documents to the 4-H Program Educator by September 1. This process allows the 4-H Club or Group to qualify for federal tax-exempt status under the University of Wisconsin Board of Regents General Exemption Number (GEN) for Wisconsin 4-H Clubs and Groups. Adults must complete multiple trainings to be accepted as a 4-H volunteer. Then the adults and youth work together to plan the year and complete the Charter which ensures quality 4-H programs for our youth.

Extension Taylor County's Primary Partnering Organizations

- Huey's Hideaway
- Northcentral WI Cattleman's Association
- Taylor County 4-H Federation
- Medford Farmer's Market
- Taylor County Tourism
- Taylor County Department of Health
- WI Beef Council
- DATCP
- WI Animal Healthy ER Mgmt Working Group
- Athens School District
- Farm WI Discovery Center
- Northwest WI Head Start
- Lutheran Social Services
- ICAA Taylor County Food Pantry
- CDI Medford Head Start
- Prentice School District
- Taylor County Public Libraries
- Gilman School District
- Rib Lake School District
- Market Animal Show & Sale
- Taylor County Fair Board
- Medford Area Public Schools
- Taylor County Solid Waste & Recycling Committee
- Taylor County Fair Board
- Taylor County Unit of WI Towns Association

Julie Diepenbrock: *4-H Educator (Shared with Price County)*

TBD: *FoodWise Nutrition Coordinator (Multi-county)*

Michelle Grimm: *Community Development Educator*

Sandra Stuttgen: *Agriculture Educator*

Kelly Phillips: *Program Assistant*

Art Lersch: *Area Extension Director, Langlade, Lincoln, Price, Taylor (715-218-5360)*

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Kelly Phillips