



Regional Crops & Soils Educator

Jordyn Sattler

Regional Dairy Educator

Jackie McCarville

New Seeding Alfalfa Systems Trial

Planning for and managing a trial evaluating different management strategies for new seeding alfalfa. The goal is to better understand how rye can be used as a companion crop for new seeding alfalfa and the impact it would have on preventing soil erosion and first year forage yield. Results will help alfalfa producers compare options and implement practices that will benefit their farm. (Sattler)

Dairy Feed Inventory Spreadsheet

Planning for a spreadsheet tool for dairy producers and consultants. The goal is to help producers understand the value of managing inventory and to be able to use the spreadsheet to account for loss and varying qualities of feed, and storage methods so that they can better plan and manage feed inventories. Feed is the largest expense on a dairy farm, accounting for about half of all input costs. (McCarville)

Insect Trapping Network

Participating in an insect trapping network to assist Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) and the UW entomology lab monitor incoming pest populations and forecast potential damage to crops. Through this effort, timely notifications will be distributed to producers who will then have local information to help guide their pest scouting and make more timely and effective pest management decisions. (Sattler)

Radio Spot with 95.5 WEKZ

A monthly radio spot (on two different radio stations) for dairy producers, allied ag industries, and the general public to learn about Extension publications and resources, programming updates, and available webinars or workshops in the area. The intent was to reach a broader audience with timely topics and resources in order to positively influence on-farm economic viability, knowledge and skills, and overall impression of Extension. (McCarville)

Wisconsin Amish Shopper Newspaper Article

A regular column that rotates between the Livestock, Crops and Soils, and Dairy educators in the Wisconsin Amish Shopper newspaper, which reaches Amish and Mennonite families in Wisconsin, Iowa, and Minnesota. An article on corn silage chop height that Luiz had written was edited to fit the intended audience. (McCarville)

Milk Fever Prevention Article

An article written for dairy farmers and advisors that explores formulating diets for milk fever prevention via the negative dietary cation anion difference (DCAD) strategy. The purpose of this article is to provide the readers with background knowledge and management recommendations when feeding negative DCAD diets as a milk fever prevention strategy. (McCarville)



Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
GREEN COUNTY

Extension Green County

September 2025 Educator Report



4-H Youth Development Educator

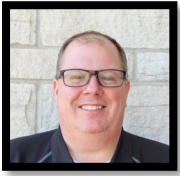
Ellen Andrews

4-H Camp: Challenging Youth to Grow

Overnight camp experiences provide powerful learning opportunities for all involved, including campers, counselors, and volunteers. Offering multiple camp structures creates a scaffolded camp experience that build upon youth's growing camp skills, as well as their teamwork, responsibility and leadership skills. Green County 4-H was excited to offer 39 youth, in 3rd-8th grade, a 4 day and 3 night overnight camp experience, August 6-9, 2025 at Upham Woods Learning Center, near Wisconsin Dells. For the first time, a 4-H Adventure Camp was offered at the same time and location as our traditional 4-H Base Camp. The 4-H Adventure Camp introduced our 7th and 8th graders to tent camping, involved the youth in cooking some of their own campfire meals, and involved more hiking and canoeing activities. A key advantage of holding both camps at the same time and location was that 6th graders could get a glimpse at the new, fun challenges that Adventure Camp would offer them next year, and 8th graders could talk with some of our high school counselors about applying for Youth Camp Staff next year. It is anticipated that these intentionally created touch points helping to improve youth retention within our camping program moving forward.

Camp is all about challenging youth to grow. One of the youth staff said that the camp experience that was most meaningful to them this year was "Getting to see my campers grow and learn. It was great to see them all grow more confident as the camp progressed. I also loved seeing them push outside their comfort zones and try something else." Campers are not only ones challenged to grow, it is also a great learning experience for our older youth who serve as counselors. These ten youth staff played a key role in looking out for the physical and emotional safety of the campers, while growing their own communication, problem solving, empathy, and leadership skills. As one of our adult volunteers shared, "This year was a fantastic demonstration of how well the counselors have learned to work together. They were confident and competent, and they've all come so far in the last few years. They're such an important part of our camp, and they're doing a terrific job!"





Human Development & Relationships Educator

Bob Wiegel

Green County Community Baby Shower

As the Human Development and Relationships Educator in Green County, Wiegel was invited to participate in the first Community Free Baby Shower. County leaders had identified the need for expecting families to be introduced to all of the services provided by service providers in the county. A booth was provided and he set up a display with program flyers containing information about the Just in Time Parenting Newsletter and I provided instructions on how to subscribe. Wiegel also went through other programs available. The event was well attended and he was able to interact with many expecting families. Many expressed how impressed they were with the newsletters and planned to subscribe. It is the hope that participants will use the helpful information in the newsletters and will have a positive outcome in their parenting.



Money as You Grow

Starting financial education for children as early as 3 years old can help build not only strong money management skills but also executive functioning abilities like problem solving and decision making. Research shows that parents and caregivers have the most influence on their children's financial capability. Many parents are eager to build a good financial literacy foundation for their kids but also report lacking the time, tools, and confidence to teach financial skills. Many children's books that teach basic money and personal finance concepts exist. UW-Madison Extension colleagues have written reading guides for 35 of these books to provide parents, teachers, and other caregivers with discussion questions and activities that they can do with children to help reinforce the books' messages. The reading guides can all be found on the Money as You Grow site: <https://finances.extension.wisc.edu/programs/money-as-you-grow/>.

Money as you Grow discussions and activities are based on the ideas of:

- Families reading and planning together
- Having positive discussions about money
- Using play and fun activities to help young children learn good money habits
- Empowering parents to talk to children about money and household ideas
- Encouraging family money management

Improving family literacy by reading the Money as You Grow books together, discussing the reading guide questions, and doing the suggested activities, families and groups in caregiving settings are able to gain skills around setting goals, prioritizing needs and wants, solving problems, making decisions, earning, spending, saving, sharing, borrowing, self-control, follow-through, staying true to yourself, and flexibility. Wiegel will be providing once a month programming in each library starting in September 2025 and running through May 2026.



FoodWise Nutrition Coordinator

Maggie Milcarek

FoodWise Nutrition Educator

Julia Harman

Area 17 Food Garden Sustainability Planning

FoodWise engaged five current food garden grant partners in Area 17 in sustainability planning to prepare for the conclusion of FoodWise programming and garden grant funding. The FoodWise Coordinator conducted sustainability assessments and worked with partners to develop long-term plans. All partners plan to continue their gardens next season and beyond, with at least two (Lafayette County Housing Authority and Family Promise) exploring expansion to additional sites. The Soul Food/LCIC pantry garden in Livingston is adapting as the pantry and church complete construction of a new building adjacent to the site. These efforts aim to ensure the long-term success of the gardens and increase access to fresh vegetables for communities with limited income and food access.

Family Promise Food Garden Nutrition Education

A two-week garden and nutrition education series with families at Family Promise Housing in Monroe. Families learned about the five food groups and the benefits of eating a balanced diet. Participants also helped prepare and sampled a recipe featuring seasonal garden produce. Week one participants made a vegetable wrap and week two they made fresh garden salsa. The purpose of this activity was to encourage families to use and eat produce growing in the Family Promise food garden and provide useful tips for selecting, storing, and eating garden produce.