

**Monroe County Natural Resource and Extension Committee**  
Regular Monthly Meeting – October 11, 2016  
Monroe County Ag Service Center – 820 Industrial Dr., Sparta, WI

Committee Members present: J. Schroeder, D. Pierce, M. Halverson, D. Hall,  
Also Present: B. Micheel (LC), C. Ziegler (Forestry), C. Mulder (LC), J. Roll (Hist), M. Modjeski (DNR), C. Walroth (DNR),  
P. Peterson (USDA), E. Eggert (UW-EXT), B. Halfman (UW-EXT)

The meeting notice was posted in compliance with the open meeting law.

**Call to Order:** Vice-Chairman Pierce called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

**Public Comment Period:** There was no public comment.

**Approve Minutes from the September 9th NR & Extension Meeting:** The committee reviewed the minutes. A motion was made to approve the minutes as presented by *J. Schroeder, seconded by D. Pierce Motion carried, 4-0-2.*

**Deke Slayton/Bike Museum:** No Report

**Local History Room/Wegner Grotto:** J. Roll reviewed the Dept. September expenditures and report to the committee (attached). Jarrod also mentioned the success of the "Art Outdoors" that was held on Aug 27<sup>th</sup> at the Wegner Grotto County Park. Explained that the History Room budget is over 100% due to the tax roll microfilming project and that the amount over would be adjusted- transferred from the History Room Operating/Trust Account at the end of the year. *J.Schoeder motion to approve expenditures, second by M. Halverson. Motion carried 4-0-2.*

**Wildlife Damage Program:**

1. **Program Review:** P. Peterson discussed the State funded Wildlife Program.
2. **Monroe County 2017 Wildlife Damage Budget:** P. Peterson presented the 2017 Wildlife Damage Budget of \$25,761.08 (attached). *J.Schoeder motion to approve, second by M. Halverson. Motion carried 4-0-2.*

**Land Conservation Department:**

1. **Review September Expenditures:** B. Micheel reviewed expenditures, report attached.
2. **Review Agricultural Advisory Team Membership:** B. Micheel presented a list of possible candidates representing all forms of agriculture across Monroe County. Asked the Committee Members for input. Discussed the water quality issues that haven't changed and or increasing in some cases. Need a new directive driven by agriculture to change the direction for land stewardship. The team would identify issues, solutions and implementation standards along with recognizing good stewards of the land. Tentatively, planning to hold the first meeting in early December.
3. **County Conservationist Report:** B. Micheel presented the departmental report to the committee (attached).
4. **Soil & Water Conservationist Report:** C. Mulder discussed her activities-noting the stream restorations completed this last month. (Report Attached along with B. Richardson's)
5. **Approve Cost Share Agreements:** B. Micheel brought two nutrient management agreements to the committee for approval: Mike Walker- 152 acres of cropland, \$4,256.00 and Steve Trescher -324 acres, \$9,072.00 *J. Schroeder motion to approve, second by D. Hall. Motion carried 4-0-2*
6. **Approve Fishing Easement:** B. Micheel presented the Wellbrooks property fishing & maintenance easement, this provides fishing opportunities to the public while giving the city the opportunity to maintain the corridor for phosphorous credits. *J. Schroeder motion to approve, second by M. Halverson. Motion. Motion carried 4-0-2.*

**NRCS Report:** No report

**DNR Reports:**

1. **Private Lands:** C. Walroth handed out the 2017 Tree and Shrub order forms. Christine also mentioned the Oak Work Shop held on October 1st and how well it was attended. Stated that the Walnut Council was doing their final reviews.
2. **Warden:** M. Modjeski issued two citations totaling \$4500 to the non-metallic mine White Sands outside of Oakdale. A court date is set for Thursday of this week for non-compliance.

**Forestry & Parks:**

1. **Forestry & Park Updates** C. Ziegler presented his department report (attached).
2. **Review Forestry & Parks Expenditures** C. Ziegler reviewed the monthly expenditures.

The FSA representative D. Hall left meeting after his obligation was completed.

**County Farm Education Funds – Discussion of potential projects - no discussion**

**Extension Office Business:**

1. **Review of September Expenditures**
2. **4H & Youth Development Report (Goede)** - report attached
3. **Family Living Report (Eggert)** – report attached
4. **Agriculture Report (Halfman)** - report attached. Bill also gave a brief update on a meeting attended Oct 7<sup>th</sup> in Lacrosse regarding Ext. Restructure.

**Motion made** by J. Schroeder to accept Agent reports and review of expenditures, seconded by M. Halverson.

**Motion carried 3-0-2.**

The next meeting will be held November 8th at 8:30 a.m. at the Monroe County Ag Services Center in Sparta.

**Motion to adjourn:** was made at 10:45 a.m. by M. Halverson, seconded by D. Pierce. **Motion carried, 3-0-2.**

*Recorder: Connie Holzl*

## October 11, 2016 LCD – Staff Reports

### Bob Micheel – County Conservationist

#### **LCD Business:**

- Christina and I attended the WLWCA Technical Tour in Dunn County looking at their efforts in conservation.
- Meeting held to evaluate flood damage last month with LCD, FSA, NRCS, UWEX & Emergency Management. Damage minimal in Monroe County.
- Tree order forms should be available for the November meeting.

#### **Construction:**

- *Sparta Phosphorous Trading Project:* Farmers Valley, La Crosse River and Beaver Creek completed. Need some re-shaping and seeding on Beaver Creek.
- *Wellbrooks project*
- *Vaassen (Trail View Acres) – Roofed barnyard approved for NOD grant funding.*

#### **Oak Management Workshop – Saturday October 1st:**

- Workshop well attended, great reviews, and everything ran smooth.

#### **Agricultural Advisory Team (AAT)**

- Represent all forms of agriculture in Monroe County
- Provide direction for: Conservation Awards, Farming/water quality standards, ordinance updates & or development, etc.
- All recommendations would be forwarded to the Natural Resource and Extension Committee for action.

#### **Meeting Schedule:**

- Oak Mgt. Committee meeting – October 13<sup>th</sup> 1-3pm
- Tri-creek planning committee meeting – October 18<sup>th</sup>
- Adaptive Mgt. meeting with the city of Tomah – October 20<sup>th</sup>
- Lake Tomah Committee meeting – October 27<sup>th</sup>
- La Crosse Marsh – Watershed Partners Meeting – November 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Natural Resource & Extension Committee Meeting – November 8<sup>th</sup>

## October 11, 2016 -- Soil & Water Conservationist's Report

### Christina Mulder

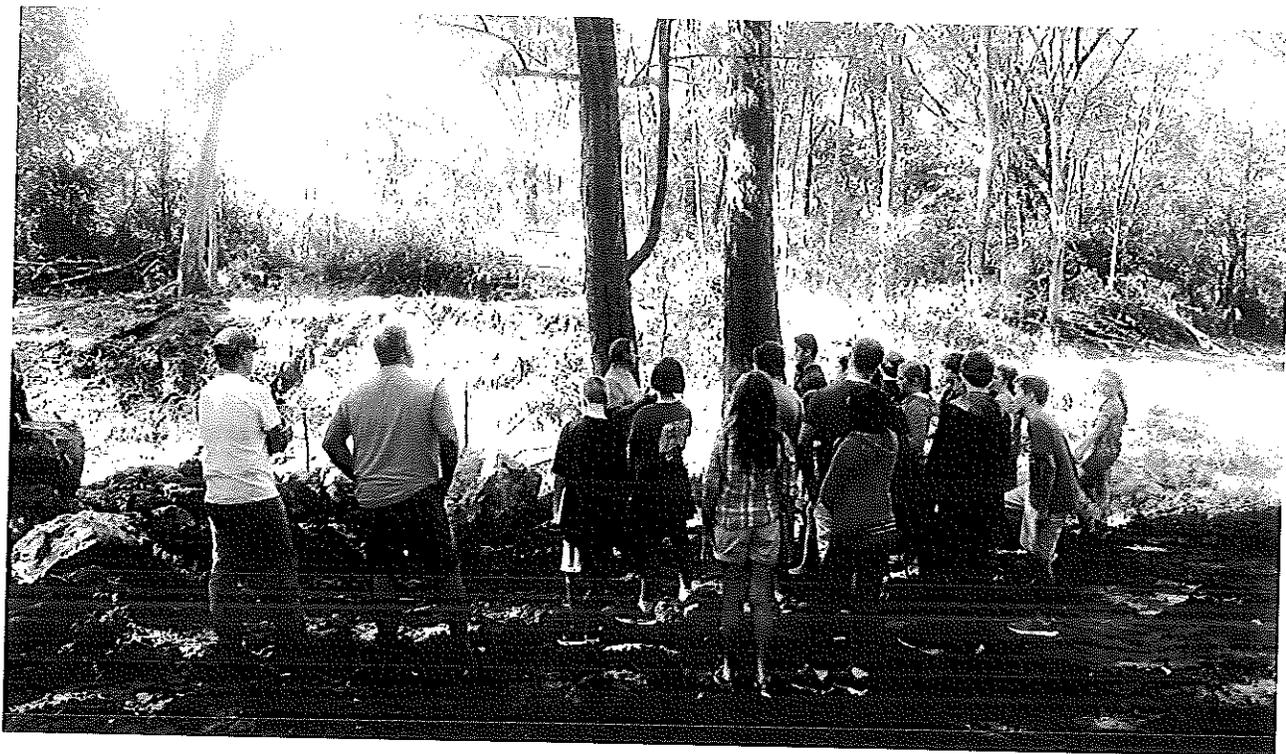
- **Farmland Preservation Program**
  - Steve Berendes signed a Conservation Plan.
- **Designs & Construction for Conservation Practices**
  - Larry Hoeft's stream restoration in the Jefferson Township has finished construction.
  - A Brush Creek stream restoration for Chester & Harvey Borntreger in the Jefferson Township has been completed.
  - Leroy Keim's stream restoration in the Jefferson Township has been completed. Streambanks have greened up nicely.
  - Construction of Jim Gehring's (Adrian Township) water way repair and wood toe-wall will begin within the next couple weeks.
- **Stream Restoration Field Day**
  - Students from the Sparta STEM Academy, grades 6-7, came to the Beaver Creek Trout Stream Restoration location on September 12, 2016. Bryce and I taught them about Beaver Creek, the City of Sparta Phosphorus Trading, and trout habitat. They also got to see LUNKER installations and the skid steer, back-hoe, and dump truck in action. Pictures attached.
- **Monroe County Farmland**
  - Reviewing and updating Conservation Plans for the Operators of each Monroe County Farm. Renters must maintain a cropping rotation that meets or is below the tolerable soil loss level for each soil type.
- **Fall Technical Tour**
  - Bob and I attended the Wisconsin Land and Water 2016 Fall Technical Tour located in Dunn County on October 6<sup>th</sup>.

## October 11, 2016 -- Soil & Water Conservationist's Report

### Bryce Richardson

- **Construction of Conservation Practices**
  - Continuing construction on 4 streambank projects.
  - 2 Grade Stabilization Structures need to be built this fall.
  - Inspected streambanks for damage following Sept. rains.
  - Designing Roofed Barnyard
  - 2 NOD projects need to be completed in 2016.
  - Critical Area shaping and seeding completed.
  
- **Nonmetallic Mining**
  - Complaint regarding illegal dumping of concrete slurry in a quarry. Site contained numerous materials that can't be legally buried. DNR law enforcement investigated. Waiting on determination by DNR.
  - Still working with one contractor on changes required in a submitted reclamation plan. Plan on presenting to our committee in Nov. or Dec.
  
- **2017 Designs**
  - Beginning to plan for 2017 construction surveys. 4 Streambank surveys planned so far.
  
- **Poster Contest**
  - 2017 Theme is "Healthy Soils are Full of Life"
  - Link on LCD website
  - Poster contest press release has been sent to local newspapers
  - 200+ teachers notified via email. Email included contest rules, deadline and application form. Also an invitation from the LCD to give soils presentations to their classrooms.
  - Last year we had 11 entrants (2 age groups) from 2 schools. This year we are looking for participation in 3+ schools and multiple age groups.

October 11, 2016 -- Soil & Water Conservationist's Report



## **2017 Conservation Awareness Poster Contest**

**“Healthy Soils Are Full of Life” is the theme for the 2017 Conservation Awareness Poster Contest sponsored by the Monroe County Land Conservation Department. The contest is open to all public, private and homeschooled (K-12) students in Monroe County. Local participants have the chance to advance to the National Poster Contest sponsored by the National Association of Conservation Districts.**

**Local Entries are due by Friday January 6, 2017 at the Monroe County Land Conservation Department, 820 Industrial Dr. Suite 3, Sparta, WI 54656.**

**Contest guidelines and entry form are available online at [www.co.monroe.wi.us/departments/land-conservation](http://www.co.monroe.wi.us/departments/land-conservation)**

**Questions can be emailed to [Bryce.Richardson@co.monroe.wi.us](mailto:Bryce.Richardson@co.monroe.wi.us) or call 608-269-8974 or 269-8976**

# 2017 Conservation Poster Contest Guidelines



## Eligibility

The National Conservation Poster Contest is open to kindergarten through twelfth (K-12) grade students. Artwork entered into the national competition must have been judged in a local and/or area conservation department sponsored poster contest and a state conservation association sponsored contest. Posters not sent by the authorized state poster group will not be considered for judging.

There will be judging at the national level for all categories. To be eligible for the national contest your state must be a state sponsor of the contest. To find who is in charge of the county poster contest visit the WI Land+Water Website <http://wisconsinlandwater.org/files/pdf/WILandWaterDirectory.pdf>

## 2017 Contest Theme

The National Poster Contest theme is: "Healthy soils are full of life!"

Poster category by grade: K-1; 2-3; 4-6; 7-9; 10-12

The contest is open to public, private and home school students.

## Contest Rules

The contest rules were created so as not to limit or revise the current rules of local and state conservation poster contests:

- Any media may be used- paint, crayon, colored pencil, charcoal, stickers, paper or other materials on regular posters.
- Poster size must be between 8.5" x 11" and 22" x 28".
- Posters should be packaged so they remain flat when sent for judging.
- All posters must be created by an individual student rather than a team of students.
- The 2017 Stewardship title "Healthy soils are full of life!" must be on your poster. This is the only title eligible for the national poster contest.
- Each entry must have signed entry form to be eligible for judging.
- Although younger students will most likely receive help in planning from parents or teachers, WI Land+Water encourages each student to do as much of the work as possible by him/herself.
- Each entry to state contest must have been judged at the local conservation contest and/or area contest prior to the state evaluation/contest.
- Posters must be judged at the state level. **Individual posters cannot be sent for national judging by individuals.** They must follow their state's contest rules and deadlines.
- **Only official state poster contest sponsors (WI Land+Water) can mail entries for national contest.**

## Poster Evaluations

National Poster Contest entries are reviewed by judges and evaluated on the following criteria:

- Conservation message (50%)
  - Poster uses correct theme
- Visual effectiveness (30%)
- Originality (10%)
- Universal appeal (10%)
  - Also taken into consideration - artwork completed on poster is that of participant unless noted on entry form

**National Prize Money Increase!**  
The top three posters in each category of the national contest will receive monetary prizes.

First place - \$200  
Second place - \$150  
Third place - \$100

Sponsored by: NACD Auxiliary quilt project  
and the Albert I. Pierce Foundation.

- Friday January 6, 2017 (Date)  
• Local entries due to: Monroe County Land Conservation Dept
- Tuesday January 10, 2017 (Date of Local Contest)  
• County contest
- January 31, 2017 (Date of Area Contest)  
• Held in Viroqua Area Contest
- March 15-17, 2017  
• State Contest - WI Land+Water Annual Conference, Osthoff, Elkhart Lake, WI
- December 1, 2017  
• Postmark date for National Contest entries

Local and state contest awards and sponsors will differ from state to state.

Depending on the sponsoring state's conservation association, the national awards will be presented at a national, regional, state and/or local conservation ceremony. The winning posters will be featured at the NACD Annual Meeting.

### **Sponsors**

The National Poster Contest program is sponsored by the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) and the NACD Auxiliary. NACD, founded in 1946, is a nonprofit organization representing nearly 3,000 local conservation districts in the 50 states and U.S. Territories. The NACD Auxiliary assists NACD with informational and educational outreach efforts. The NACD Auxiliary would like to thank the Albert I. Pierce Foundation for their assistance with the contest.

Questions?

Diana Blackwood-NACD Stewardship and Education [stewardship@nacdnet.org](mailto:stewardship@nacdnet.org) or 317-326-2952

Kim Warkentin- WI Land+Water [kim@wisconsinlandwater.org](mailto:kim@wisconsinlandwater.org) or 608-441-2677 X 3

For more information visit: <http://wisconsinlandwater.org/events/youth-poster-amp-speaking-contest>



## Forestry & Parks Report (October) – Ziegler

### Forestry:

- Timber Sale setup & Administration
- Bracke Arm Road Planting Site and Shelterwood (18 acres)
- Firewood permits
- WCFA 2016 Annual Meeting
  - July Storm Updates
  - Motorized Rec Programs
  - Address from Chief State Forester
  - Alternate Market for Pole sized timber
  - Annual WCFA Business Meeting
- Oak management workshop
- Fort McCoy Training lease and Snowmobile Trail Permit

### Parks:

- Cranfest \$19K over 10 days
- Camping revenue: increase about 4%
- Fall preparations

# MONROE COUNTY LOCAL HISTORY ROOM MUSEUM & LIBRARY

200 West Main Street  
Sparta, Wisconsin 54656-2141  
608-269-8680 Fax: 608-269-8921  
Email: [MCLHR@centurytel.net](mailto:MCLHR@centurytel.net)  
[www.MonroeCountyHistory.org](http://www.MonroeCountyHistory.org)  
Jarrod M. Roll Director / Historian



## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Carolyn Habelman, Chr.	New Lyme Twp.
Joan Cook	Sparta Twp.
Rick Kast	Sparta City
Jim Kuhn	Portland Twp.
John Lasko	Sparta City
Cheryl Roscovius	To mah City

## County Historian's Report, September 2016 Submitted by Jarrod Roll, Director / County Historian

### Highlighted Projects and Activities

- Attended LHR Endowment meeting with Jon Holthaus and Monroe Co. Treasurer
- Began planning for the 2016 holiday display of a massive Christmas village. This included driving to Milwaukee to pick up the village components, inventorying the pieces, designing the layout and background; researching prices and ordering supplies
- Attended WFM meeting at the Milwaukee Public Museum
- Provided educational programming to Alzheimer's patients and their caregivers
- Hosted two bus tours of out of state guests at LHR
- Collaborated with BLU Group to design the new LHR brochure
- Wrote newspaper column for the Monroe County Herald
- Interviewed two Monroe County nonagenarians; updated our historic photo data with the information they provided
- Attended special "Future Space Needs" meeting of the Monroe County Board
- Co-hosted the SW regional meeting of the WI Council of Local History at the History Room
- Coordinated maintenance efforts on the Museum building and on its grounds
- Processed recent donations to the Local History Room collection: assigned and marked object numbers, assigned locations, typed up item histories
- Began to coordinate public programs and speakers for the 2017 winter/spring "History Live" series
- Researched history of the Local History Room
- Regular tasks: provided research assistance to the public (via email, telephone, mail, and in person patrons); provided customer service to museum visitors; assigned storage locations, cataloged, and photographed artifacts removed from displays and those recently donated; balanced LHR financial books and draft monthly report; checked fire extinguishers; processed new donation offerings; conferred with Alli Karrells about museum issues and activities; attend Ag/Extension meeting

### In addition to the projects listed above, I supervise the following volunteer and support staff:

- Agnes Jenkins: indexing newspapers
- Dennis Burek: photo scanning projects; data entry projects; assist with clerical duties
- Barb Reedich: research Monroe County in WWI; answer research requests
- Hannah Scholze (Museum Services Associate )
- John Lasko: represents and promotes LHR at public events
- Jane Schmidt: indexing newspapers
- Jim Ebert: indexing newspapers
- Sandy Waltermann: creating a master index of Monroe County graduates
- Barb McGreevy: rehousing county court records; other duties as assigned



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14345 County Hwy. B, Room 1  
Sparta, WI 54656  
608-269-8722  
608-269-8767 (FAX)  
800-947-3529 (TTY)

Bill Halfman, Agriculture Agent

### **Agriculture Extension Update September 10, 2016 to October 11, 2016**

The wet weather in September caused a lot of late season problems in both fruit, vegetable, and field crops. This resulted in farm visits and phone calls to diagnose problems and provide growers information to assist them make management decisions for their situations.

The Ag Agent along with the Livestock and Grain Economist developed a set of projections for backgrounding and finishing calves that are used to help beef producers evaluate options. These are used locally, across the state and in neighboring states based on e-mails and phone calls received.

The second webinar in a series on Farm Business and Estate Transfer was held on September 22. The webinars last 2 hours and are broadcast around the state. The topic of this webinar was Limited Liability Companies (LLC) and tax and transfer implications when using them.

The Ag Agent was a tour guide for two bus tours at the Warrens Cranberry Festival on Saturday September 24.

The Ag Agent along with counterparts in Grant and Buffalo Counties organized and conducted cow-calf workshops on September 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. Topics were on vitamin and mineral nutrition for the cow herd, presented by Dr. Patrick Gunn, Iowa State Beef Cow-Calf Specialist, (via webinar) and pasture weed management and utilizing cover crops for forage, presented by local agents. The workshop at Cashton had 50 people attend, as did the one at Platteville, The workshop at Alma had 20 people attend.

The Ag Agent is working with counterparts in St. Croix and Grant counties to create an enterprise budget spreadsheet for cow-calf operations. The project is close to being finished, we need to get the procedure for accurately accounting overhead costs in a practical manner worked out.

The Ag Agent along with the FSA County Executive, NRCS Director, Land Conservation Department Head, and County Emergency Management Director completed a situation report for the heavy rainfall events that occurred in late September for the USDA.

On October 3<sup>rd</sup>, The Ag Agent hosted a Bovine Emergency Response Planning and Training workshop for first responders and emergency management coordinators. We had 20 people from around the state attend the workshop. The presenters were Extension people from North Dakota and West Virginia who developed this workshop as part of the National BQA program. A result of this workshop is that the Ag Agent and his counterparts who attended the workshop will be able to conduct it at additional locations in the state without the expense of bringing in the out of state speakers. It was a day long program with both presentations and hands on practicum.

### **Upcoming Events- more to be added as they get finalized**

October 12 Farm visits- w Ag Engineer  
October 18-20- ANRE annual in-service  
October 27- Farm Transfer Workshop  
November 11- Pest Mgt Update

November 16 Sparta Garden Club  
November 30- Soils and Fertilizer Update  
December 9 Heart of Farm - Warrens



Monroe County UW-Extension  
14345 County Highway B, Room 1  
Sparta, WI 54656-0309

Phone: 608-269-8722  
Fax: 608-366-1809  
Dial 711 for Wisconsin Relay  
<http://monroe.uwex.edu/>

Erin Eggert  
Family Living Agent

## Family Living Update September 9 to October 11, 2016

- StrongWomen
  - Fall Session Started. We have 115 women enrolled this time. 41 participants are repeat participants. That brings me to a total of 203 participants across Monroe County in 2016.
  - Session is off to a great start. Everyone is really enjoying it. I will be ordering t-shirts to the new participants. In addition, I had another participant get certified to teach yesterday so we're planning on her having a class starting in January.
  - Statewide: Still working on a promotional video. Also working on getting an Advanced Training put up online. The Advanced training helps to make the program a little harder for those that have done it for many sessions.
- Food Pantry Project
  - We started our Fall Inventory Assessments. Myself and my intern are doing the majority of those. We did our first two this past Friday.
- Healthy Fair Food Project
  - My intern is working on that data now. It takes about 25-30 minutes to find all the necessary information (calories for food items eaten at the fair, total calories, physical activity level, recommended calories, etc) for each participant and we had over 80 participants take the survey. So this is time consuming.
- Other
  - Nutrition Across the Lifespan 2-day webinar. It was really interesting!
  - Food Security Meeting with the Monroe County Planning Committee. Sharing what different organizations do and what information we can share.
  - I became the co-leader of the statewide Healthy Living Team: Active Communities group. This is a great opportunity and will give me first-hand access to bringing programs to Monroe County. An example of this is the

Walk with Ease program. A walking program developed by the Arthritis Foundation. I will be getting trained as a leader for this program and hoping to start it in 2017 here in Monroe County.

- Family Living is focusing a lot on Active Living by Design (how to change the environment so we're automatically being more active). Our conference in October will focus a lot around that. We had a pre-meeting and introduction webinar on that.
- HealthTIDE Schools Team Meeting in Madison. I am on the Active Schools team. Research shows that inactive kids stay inactive as adults and that the average teenager only gets 27 minutes of physical activity per day (recommendation is 60 minutes). So Active Schools finds more ways naturally throughout the day to incorporate physical activity (example: nature lesson walking out and viewing the trees rather than photos, including active games in math class and science class, having 2-5 minute "brain breaks", and more).
- Senior Health and Safety Expo- October 6<sup>th</sup>. I talked about Fall Prevention for seniors and had a "crime scene" set up to show seniors what things around the home could lead to a fall. I had handouts and then also promoted the StrongWomen program too.
- WisContext: I wrote an article on Fall Prevention for older adults. This online platform is shared across the state so it was an honor to be asked to write an article!

### **Continuing Events**

- Newspaper articles to Tomah and Sparta newspapers
- Continuing to post and promote the facebook site and Pinterest site

### **Upcoming Events**

- Family Living Conference in Madison (Oct 12-14)
- HCE Fall Fest Oct 29
-



## Joshua L. Goede

### National 4-H Agent's Conference

The Agent apologizes for his absence today. He is attending the National Convention. He is hoping to find good information to grow the programs he has established and bring new programs and ideas to the county program.

### Community Learning Centers

The CLCs have started for the new year. The Agent has visited Norwalk-Ontario-Wilton, Maplewood and Cataract elementary schools so far. The curriculum for the first month is a life skills through STEM program being piloted by NASA Education. The Agent is still looking for a way to move away from directly teaching the CLCs. Partnering with a university in LAX did not work out first semester we will revisit it after the winter break. He is also looking at internal ways to transition the program to volunteers.

### Chartering Process

The annual Club Chartering Process is continuing. Each year all active clubs are required to submit a Charter for agent to review to ensure the club is complying with state and federal rules. There is also a review of the club's finances. This is also a chance to look at how the clubs are functioning. The deadline is October 15<sup>th</sup>. We have received 2 clubs already.

### Agents for Change

The Agent attended a cooperative training between the Sparta's Meadowview Schools, Monroe County Safe Community Coalition, and Youth2Youth Substance Abuse Prevention out of Rock County. The training was part of the Agents for Change Program which Monroe County 4-H has joined to present tobacco, alcohol, and substance use prevention lessons in the Cashton and Norwalk-Ontario-Wilton school districts. The Agent also plans to reach out to Tomah Schools to see if there is interest there.

### Reporting

The Agent has begun to enter reports into the online system. There are many great programs and activities to report on this year. One bright spot the numbers of enrolled 4-H members rose from last year by 7 members.

### Wake Up Call

The Agent through collaboration with the Monroe County Safe Communities Coalition is working as a tour guide on the Wake-Up Call event held at Jones Plaza in Sparta. The event is a mockup of a teenager's bed room. There are 50+ red flags that could indicate teen drug or alcohol use. The event has public hours through Oct 21.

### Clover Camp

This event happened on Saturday the 8<sup>th</sup>. We had 11 Cloverbuds signed up for the program. Participants studied water with real stream tables, through art and in stories. There was also a water cycle beading activity.

### Fall Forum

The Agent will travel to Green Lake with 5 Monroe County youth to the Annual Fall Forum. The event has been restructured to become a valuable leadership forum. The youth and adults that attend go to two seminars and a round robin activity to see what is happening in other 4-H programs. The past attendees have gained much through attending.

### Advanced Space Academy

The Agent is in full swing planning for the 2017 Advanced Space Academy. The plan was to take 30 Wisconsin 4-Hers in 10<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade to Huntsville, AL. We are well short of that number. We have now arranged flights for the members. We will travel the last week of January 2017. The 13 WI 4-H members are excited to start the correspondence about the program and what to expect.