

Monroe County Natural Resource and Extension Committee
Regular Monthly Meeting – September 12, 2017
Monroe County Ag Service Center – 820 Industrial Dr., Sparta, WI

Committee Members present: N. VanWychen, D. Pierce, M. Halverson, J. Schroeder, D. Olson and D. Hall
Also Present: C. Ziegler (Forestry), B. Micheel (LC), C. Mulder (LC), R. Swatek (NRCS), J. Roll (Hist), A. Karrels (Deke Slayton Museum) B. Halfman (UW-EXT), C. Caulum (MFL)

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

Call to Order: Chair VanWychen called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Public Comment Period: None

Approve Minutes from the August 8th NR & Extension Meeting: The Committee reviewed the minutes. A motion was made to approve the minutes as presented by D. Pierce, seconded by M. Halverson. Motion carried, 6-0.

Deke Slayton/Bike Museum: A. Karrels gave an update on the different functions and mentioned the Honorary Citizens Luncheon and itinerary which includes one day at the museum. Karrels discussed the Star Wars Reads day scheduled in October. Karrels also mentioned the interest that has already been shown for the Space Camp for 2018. Karrels announced the Annual Pig Roast is held the 2nd Friday of July.

Forestry & Parks was moved up as Chad had another commitment to attend.

Forestry & Parks:

1. **Forestry & Park Updates:** C. Ziegler presented his department report (attached). Ziegler discussed the harvesting of the Sphagnum Moss that will take place on the Epstein property in the Town of Lincoln. They will need access across county forest to reach their moss marsh.
2. **Annual County Forest Work Plan Resolution:** Motion was made by D. Pierce to approve the Annual County Forest Work Plan Resolution, seconded by D. Hall. Motion carried 5-0-1.
3. **Review Forestry & Parks Expenditures:** C. Ziegler reviewed the August monthly expenditures.

Land Conservation moved up as J. Roll had not arrived yet.

Land Conservation Department:

1. **Review August Expenditures:** B. Micheel reviewed expenditures, report attached.
2. **County Conservationist Report:** B. Micheel presented the departmental report to the committee (attached). B. Micheel presented a letter, highlighting points to consider, regarding the sighting for the new Nursing Home Project. Nodji will forward to the Nursing Home Building Advisory Committee.
3. **Soil & Water Conservationist Reports:** C. Mulder presented her report along with B. Richardson's. (reports attached). Mulder stated that the deadline for the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program has been met for the 2017 re enrolls that will begin on Oct. 1, 2017. Mulder is preparing for the fall surveys and has completed 3 streambank riprap projects.
4. **Review/Approve Cost-Share Agreements:** C. Mulder presented two Cost- Share agreements. J. Schroeder made a motion to approve 325' of streambank protection for John Durbrow, cost share amount \$2,431, and Nutrient Management Plan for Gary Gronemus, cost share amount \$6,160, seconded by D. Pierce. Motion carried 6-0.
5. **Review/Approve Fishing Easements:** B. Micheel presented fishing easement for Carlisle Brothers. J. Schroeder made a motion to approve Carlisle Brother's fishing easement, seconded by M. Halverson. Motion carried 6-0.

6. **Review/Select Land Stewardship Award Winners: Conservationist & Conservation Farmer:** B. Micheel presented nomination forms to the committee.
Motion was made by J. Schroeder, seconded by D. Pierce for 1st nomination chosen for the Conservationist Award to be announced at a later date. Motion carried 6-0.
Motion was made by D. Pierce, seconded by D. Hall to accept nomination for Farmer of the Year Award to be announced at a later date. Motion carried 6-0.

Local History Room/Wegner Grotto- J. Roll reviewed August expenditures and presented report to the committee (attached). *Motion was made by D. Olson to approve the local History Room reports, seconded by D. Pierce. Motion carried 6-0.*

1. **Discuss/Approve Security System Upgrade:** *Motion was made by J. Schroeder to approve the purchase of a security system upgrade for the museum Building for \$2,990 (paid for by the Local History Room), seconded by M. Halverson. Motion carried 6-0.*

NRCS Report: R. Swatek introduced himself to the committee, replacing Jon Fields who had been acting in Michelle Komiskey's absence. Swatek gave an update on the CSP renewals for an extra 5 years, due at the end of the month. Swatek stated there is a lot of construction for EQIP, and they are accepting 2018 applications due by October 20th for next spring. The goal is to fund as many projects as they can.

DNR Reports:

1. **Private Lands:** None
2. **Warden:** None
3. **MFL:** C. Caulum reported lots of Oak Wilt this year. Caulum also mentioned logging is finally moving forward after a slow start.

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 August Expenditures**
2. **4H & Youth Development Report (Goede) –B. Halfman presented report for Goede- attached)**
3. **Family Living Report (Eggert) – B. Halfman presented report for Eggert- attached.**
4. **Agriculture Report (Halfman) –report attached.**

Motion made by D. Pierce to accept Agent reports and review of expenditures, seconded by M. Halverson. Motion carried 5-0.

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, October 10th at 8:30 a.m. at the Monroe County Ag Services Center in Sparta.

Motion to adjourn: *was made at 10:40 a.m. by D. Olson, second by M. Halverson. Motion carried, 5-0.*

Recorder: Connie Holzl

September 12th, 2017 LCD- Staff Reports

Bob Micheel- County Conservationist

LCD Business:

- Tri-Creek Property – 3 complaints filed to date with person's driving their 4x4 truck through renters (Radke) cropland. Reported to Monroe County Sheriff's office. Looking into changing parking lot or gate entrance options for Kennel Ave. with Ridgeville Township. The Land Use Committee will be tackling goals for the property at their next meeting. Resource inventory almost complete.
- Monroe County Invasive Species Working Group Update: Mic Armstrong (NRCS) and DNR staff held a training for the Monroe County Hwy Dept. shop looking at ID plants and treatment options. Mic also gave presentation last month on invasive at the Towns Association meeting.
- Newspaper - Conservation Matters – Christina was highlighted in the first article, which focused on the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP).
- Phosphorous Trading – Sparta recently completed the Beaver Creek project upstream from the covered bridge behind the farmers market. The Randy Giraud farm is the next phase in stream restoration for P-credit on Beaver Creek.
- New- Nursing Home construction site options: Review considerations between the last two proposed sites.
- County Deer Advisory Committee: Committee stayed with the previous goals of maintaining the Central Farmland Zone and increase the deer population in the Central Forest zone.
- Land Stewardship Awards Banquet Committee: Review nominations and select winner for 2017. Selection process moved to Natural Resource & Extension Committee because of internal nomination on the Awards Committee.

Meeting Schedule:

- September 13th – NRCS Engineering Tour of Monroe County Sites
- September 28th – Invasive Species Working Group Meeting
- September 29th – Open House for the Courthouse, LCD Display
- October 3rd – Western Area Meeting – La Crosse
- October 5th – Land Stewardship Awards Committee
- October 10th – Natural Resource & Extension Committee meeting
- October 10th – CDAC meeting



MONROE COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

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September 11, 2017

Nursing Home Building Advisory Committee

Re: Site selection – As Director of the Land Conservation Department, my primary focus is on land use and the result of decisions made on the landscape. Based on the bullet points below, Site 3 makes more sense than 4.

- Sit prep which includes soil excavation and fill needed to prepare a stable building site for construction favors site 3, with less overall soil movement which saves dollars.
- Water management challenges with more impervious (roofs, parking lots, roads) area added to the local drainage area. Watershed hardening will need to be designed for downstream of the facility ultimately impacting Beaver Creek and the city of Sparta residents. Detention basins typically are sized for 2 year events, when we should be planning for 100 storm events due to climate change. More property would be consumed and more dollars spent at site 4 to accomplish this task along with potential county road culvert resizing & or additions, ditching and reshaping establish waterways.
- Access off of County Road B and traffic implications if developing more driveways than what exists. Take advantage of the existing infrastructure creates more efficiencies from traffic to maintenance of the property, which ultimately saves dollars for Monroe County tax payers.
- The cemetery and Hansen Park designation ties Monroe County to the existing Rolling Hills site. The history of Rolling Hills and maintenance requirements of the county reside near site 3, keep efficiencies tied to one foot print.
- Overall healthier environment for the residents would be provided with option 3. Potential trail system to and around Beaver Creek, minimum light and sound pollution along with no effect on neighbors quality of life should be considered.
- Keeping development tied together is effective planning, regardless if someone else buys/owns the existing buildings.

Thank you for allowing me to submit my concerns.

Sincerely,

Bob Micheel
Monroe County LCD – Director

September 12, 2017 -- Soil & Water Conservationist's Report

Christina Mulder

- **Farmland Preservation Program**
 - Creating Conservation Plans for those enrolled
- **Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)**
 - Deadline has been met for 2017 re-enrolls that will begin Oct 1, 2017
 - Only CRP still available
- **Designs & Construction for Conservation Practices**
 - Completed 3 streambank riprap projects
 - Preparing for fall surveys

Bryce Richardson

- **Design of Conservation Practices**
 - Ongoing streambank construction. Inventoried storm damage on 13 landowners. Mostly riprap and stream crossing issues. Approximately 20 landowners interested in practices for 2018 so far.
- **Nonmetallic Mining**
 - Public Notice posted, and adjacent landowners notified, for the Miller Quarry Reclamation Plan. Property is owned by Gerke Excavating in Sec. 3 of Wilton Twp. One landowner requested a public hearing on the reclamation plan. This hearing will be held during the October 2017 Natural Resource and Extension Committee. The hearing will be on the Reclamation Plan only, not operations.

Forestry & Parks Report (September) – Ziegler

Forestry:

- Snowmobile Claim submitted for July 2017 Storm damage : \$25,200.00
- Tri Creek meeting
- Met with R. Zellmer from Mosser Lee, Town of Lincoln
- Annual Partnership Meeting with WDNR
- Invasive spraying
- County Deer Advisory Committee Meeting
- Timber sale set up
- Timber sale 148 administration and post-sale recon

Parks:

- Management Training (6 hrs) Strengths Based Leadership
- Shower Bldg Repairs – Halverson Plumbing
- Firewood cutting/splitting

MONROE COUNTY FOREST ANNUAL WORK PLAN - 2018

REFERENCES:

1. Annual Planning Meeting (once per year with minutes)
2. Fifteen Year Comprehensive Plan (2006-2020)

INTRODUCTION:

This work plan is intended to give a general overview of the accomplishment goals for 2018, not be a blueprint of what will or will not be done. Issues such as funding, weather, harvesting activity and workload will ultimately impact what will be accomplished. Due to unforeseen circumstances it may be expedient and prudent to perform more of one activity at the expense of another, with the understanding that at another time the situation may be reversed.

TIMBER SALE ADMINISTRATION:

As of August 29, 2017 there are six inactive timber sales and one active timber sale on the county forest. Normal administrative procedures for timber sales include:

- Advertising the sale and negotiating the contract.
- Meeting with the purchaser before the job is started to go over the sale requirements.
- Routinely inspecting the sale once the harvest has started to confirm contract compliance.
- Collecting load tickets and tracking the volume and type of wood being harvested.
- Making sure landing and road repair is done properly following the harvest.
- Balancing the sale ledger and completing the cutting report at sale close out.

TIMBER SALE PLANNING AND ESTABLISHMENT:

The goals for timber sale establishment and sale in 2018 are:

- Approximately 169 acres of timber will be sold.
- Ninety five acres will be even-aged harvests with reserve trees and reserve pockets of trees.
- Forty acres will be pine thinning.
- Thirty five acres will be Swamp Hardwood thinning.

Normal sale establishment procedures include;

- Consulting the compartment reconnaissance to determine harvest needs for the year.
- Inspecting the scheduled stands to determine if a harvest is appropriate.
- Marking the timber to be sold in a manner appropriate for the type of sale.
- Preparing a sale prospectus and completing the cutting notice.

FOREST RECONNAISSANCE:

- The goal for compartment reconnaissance in 2018 is 354 acres.
- Reconnaissance of completed timber sales will be done as they are closed out.

TIMBER STAND IMPROVEMENT:

- Some buckthorn removal may be performed on timber sale areas via hand removal and herbicides.
- Spotted knapweed treatments may occur in grassy openings and along county forest roads.
- Stump sprouts may be thinned mechanically to increase the vigor of the residual stems.

REFORESTATION:

Natural regeneration is anticipated on the mature sites that will be harvested.

FISH AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES:

The normal activities associated with the Karner blue butterfly program and the maintenance of wildlife openings will continue during 2018.

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RESOLUTION APPROVING THE MONROE COUNTY FOREST ANNUAL WORK PLAN - 2018

WHEREAS, it is required that the Monroe County Board of Supervisors approve the Monroe County Forest Annual Work Plan (see attached); and

WHEREAS, the Monroe County Natural Resources and Extension Committee has reviewed and approved this attached plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Monroe County Board of Supervisors that they do hereby approve the attached Annual Work Plan for the calendar year of 2018 for the Monroe County Forest.

Dated this 27th of September 2017.

Offered by the NATURAL RESOURCES and EXTENSION COMMITTEE.

Purpose: To approve this Annual Forest Work Plan for the calendar year of 2018; which will allow Monroe County to apply for the County Forest Administrator Grant.

Fiscal Note: Revenue from the County Forest Administrator Grant from the WDNR will be approximately \$44,000.00.

Reviewed as to form on _____ _____ Andy Kaftan, Corporation Counsel	Committee of Jurisdiction Forwarded on: _____ 20____ ____ Yes ____ No ____ Absent Committee Chair: _____ _____ _____
Finance Vote (If required): ____ Yes ____ No ____ Absent	
<input type="checkbox"/> ADOPTED <input type="checkbox"/> FAILED <input type="checkbox"/> AMENDED <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER _____ County Board Vote on: _____ 20____ ____ Yes ____ No ____ Absent	STATE OF WISCONSIN COUNTY OF MONROE I, SHELLEY R. BOHL, Monroe County Clerk, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Resolution # _____ acted on by the County Board of Supervisors at the meeting held on _____ _____ SHELLEY R. BOHL, MONROE COUNTY CLERK (A raised seal certifies an official document)

County Historian's Report, August 2017

Submitted by Jarrod Roll, Director / County Historian

Highlighted Projects and Activities by Team

- Continued to plan and fundraise for “Monroe County A-Z” exhibit, including working with Corporate Council on revising the Project Contract, coordinating with third parties on the elements they are creating for the exhibit, sending thank you letters to donors, meeting with potential donors.
- Participated in MCHS “Spirit Walk” at Oakdale Cemetery, including rehearsing part and dressing in costume.
- Cleaned the Wegner Grotto in preparation of Art Outdoors (blew pine needles off sculptures, washed flood grime from Peace Monument interior and exterior, etc.).
- Planned, promoted, set up, and hosted Art Outdoors at the Wegner Grotto—185 attended despite constant rain.
- Began planning for the 1950s Christmas exhibit, including scouting for and gathering artifacts to be used, researching 1950s living rooms, toys, and decorations.
- Attended County management training.
- 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; paid bills through the county finance system; processed new donation offerings; conferred with Alli Karrels about museum issues and activities; attended 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; artifact cataloging; assist with clerical duties
- Barb Reedich: researching Monroe County in WWI; answer research requests; assist with exhibits
- Hannah Scholze (Museum Services Associate): runs Facebook; teaches students; assists with research, exhibits, marketing, and most projects listed above, etc.
- John Lasko: represents and promotes LHR at public events and in the region
- Jane Schmidt: indexing newspapers
- Jim Ebert: indexing newspapers
- Sandy Waltermann: creating a master index of Monroe County graduates
- Barb McGreevy: church indexing project
- Adam Balz: indexing cemetery records; writing County School histories
- Marilyn Beall: indexing the special Federal Census Schedules
- Barb Reisinger: indexing eighth grade graduation records
- Sara Oostick: cataloging LHR artifacts currently on display in Past Perfect
- Angelina Ebert: indexing WWI Army Transport Service Records



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Erin Eggert
Family Living Agent

Family Living Update August 8th to September 12, 2017

- StrongWomen
 - Busy getting ready for the fall classes to start collecting money, securing locations, ensuring all participants have correct paperwork in, promoting the classes.
 - Fall classes are starting this week. We have 5 classes: 2 in Sparta, 2 in Tomah, and 1 in Cashton. There are ____ people registered (114 as of 9/6).
 - I am co-teaching one of the classes in Sparta and have volunteer instructors for the other classes. There was a small hiccup for our 8am class in Sparta because that's an Advanced class and the instructor has been having some health problems. So I am filling in for that as needed as well.
- Walk with Ease
 - Our 3rd session in Monroe County starts the first week of September. We have one class in Tomah and one in Sparta. Tomah has 11 new participants in its first session. Sparta has 8 total participants, half repeats and half new participants. Due to the grant we were able to offer the summer session and both of these fall session at no cost.
- Stronger Together
 - The new partner physical activity class in Tomah. Not as much interest as I anticipated for this class! There were a couple people that were disappointed to have the StrongWomen out of the 5:30pm time slot but I was able to talk most of them in to trying this class. It starts the week of Sept 25th and we still need 2-3 more people enrolled to hold the class.
- Safe & Healthy Food Pantry Project: Monroe County
 - I have been meeting with Jen Pederson and Kayleigh Day from the Health Department every week working on the grant. We have made some good progress and have received letters of support from a couple of the food

pantries which we're hoping will help us. The grant is due Oct 2nd and we should hear back by January whether we got it or not.

- Community Health Improvement Plan: Nutrition Workgroup
 - We are also looking for a grant for this workgroup.
 - We have invited the individual from Second Harvest that I heard talk last month about the school food pantry and backpack programs to talk at this month's meeting (tomorrow).
 - We are hoping to finalize specific activities we want to do and then find funding and go from there.
- Civil Rights Review Day- November
 - We've been busy getting things ready for that in our office. Getting non-discrimination letters, pulling together our promotions showing we have promoted to all areas and underserved audiences in the county, and making sure we have demographics for all of our groups. We'll continue to work on getting ready for this over the next month and a half.

Continuing Events

- Continuing to post and promote the facebook site and Pinterest site

Upcoming Events

- Warrens Cranberry Festival Royalty Judging (Sept 13)
- Taking Care of You- Facilitator Training (Sept 19)
- StrongWomen Wisconsin State Team Meeting (Sept 28)
- HealthTIDE Active Communities Meeting (Sept 29)
- HealthTIDE Schools Team Meeting (Oct 19)



Joshua L. Goede

Arts Camp

The Agent is a co-chair on the steering committee for the statewide Arts Camp held in October at Upham Woods in the Wisconsin Dells. The Agent will serve as the camp director. Training weekend on August 26-27 was a success. All 38 members of the youth and adult staff have organized and planned a great learning opportunity for youth to expand their network of friends throughout the state. There will also be great opportunity to learn skills to bring back to the county level. Monroe county will have one camper and one chaperone. We are

Monroe County 4-H Summer Camp

Camp was a great experience for all 27 Base campers and counselor, 8 adult volunteers, and 16 out post youth. There were many new things our campers have not been able to do before due to the partnership with Upham Woods this year. Outpost too was a success. So much so that the youth counselors came and asked if we could work on making an outpost camp in the county. The idea evolved into possibly having outpost next year at Wild Cat Mountain State Park. Time will tell.

Jr. Leader's Road Trip

The Jr. Leaders Road Trip was held Aug. 15th to 17th. We had an amazing opportunity to experience and be trained in blood loss prevention. The Navy says this will be the next wave of community based lifesaving education. The next day the group visited the Field Museum, Millennium Park, and Navy Pier. Before leaving on the 17th the group volunteered for 5 hours at the Pacific Garden Mission. The group sorted 250 pounds of food waste to be served to the guests. They also served over 350 homeless people lunch in the cafeteria and cleaned and set the cafeteria in between dinner shifts.

Wisconsin State 4-H Dog Show

Monroe County hosted the 2017 Wisconsin State 4-H Dog Show on August 18-20. There were over 250 4-H dogs and trainers in Tomah as well as families and visitors. There was Dog Bowl on Friday night. Obedience and Rally was all day Saturday. Showmanship was on Sunday. Arts and photos were on display all weekend. The event was covered very well in the local media. See articles.

Continuing Programs

Community Learning Centers

- The Agent has had conversations about working with the schools in a different way on CLCs. The Agent will look at doing a quarterly presentation for the 5 elementary school and one in-depth project for the two middle schools.

Jr. Leaders

The Jr. Leaders are starting the year over. They will meet October 14th to plan clover college. They will also look at going to a movie in Sparta to see the PSA our 4-Hers created this summer.

Monroe County Safe Community Coalition

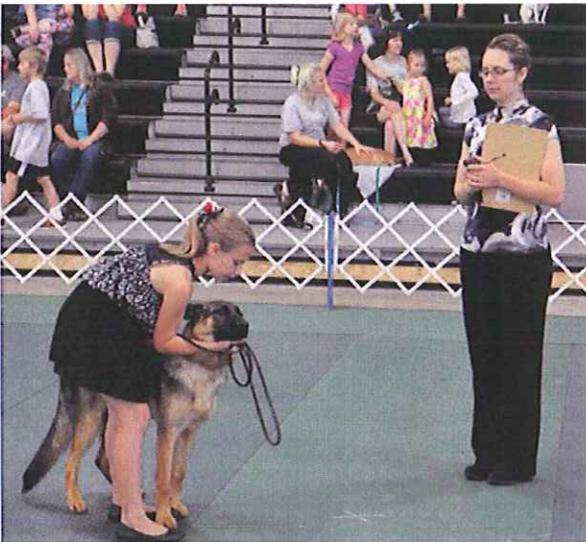
- Had our third meeting to develop Marijuana curricula for training with 9th grade students to teach them how to teach it to 6th grade students in 2017-18. ○
- There is a Public Service Announcement before movies in Sparta starring 3 4-Hers from Cashton explaining the truth about Marijuana.

• Youth Protection Program

- All adults in the program will be screened with a national level criminal Background Check.
- We are working to find class times for adults to take the face to face training.

Youngsters seek to impress judges at 4-H dog show in Tomah

- [STEVE RUNDIO steve.rundio@lee.net](mailto:steve.rundio@lee.net)
- Aug 20, 2017



BUY NOW

Judge Kayla Menn of Norwalk assesses the obedience of Gretl, a German shepherd handled by Allison Jagodzinski of Marathon County.

- [STEVE RUNDIO photos, RVMG](#)

Brayden Gebczyk of

Tomah brought his Jack Russell terrier for judging at the Wisconsin 4-H Dog Show held at Tomah Recreation Park.

- [STEVE RUNDIO, Tomah Newspapers](#)

BUY NOW

Six pens were set up for judging in the Tomah Ice Center.

- [STEVE RUNDIO, Tomah Newspapers](#)

Lailah Eckes readily admits her dog Quincy is more advanced in showmanship than obedience.

“It’s hard to train her because she wants to herd everything,” Eckes said. “She tries to herd squirrels.”

That didn’t deter Eckes from entering Quincy, a corgie/blue heeler mix, in the obedience portion of the Wisconsin 4-H Dog Show held Aug. 18-20 at Tomah Recreation Park.

Over 200 highly social and mostly quiet dogs assembled in the Tomah Ice Center for three days of judging. Dogs were judged in obedience, showmanship and agility, and there was also a dog quiz bowl.

Eckes, a 14-year-old from Sparta and a member of Norwalk Clovers 4-H, said judges could find lots of good qualities in Quincy, even if her obedience still needs work.

“She’s really good at showmanship,” Eckes said. “She’s really energetic. She likes attention and being around other people.”

Thirteen-year-old Brayden Gebczyk of Tomah also brought a dog with lots of energy. A member of the LaGrange Tunnel Lites 4-H, he introduced the judges to his four-year-old Jack Russell terrier.

“She’s more agility because she’s really fast,” Gebczyk said. “She wants to go fast and get everything done.”

Boys and girls from third grade through college freshmen from 26 counties presented their dogs. Show chairperson Jackie Menn said the event was more than just a dog show. She said training dogs and presenting them before judges teach youngsters how to be responsible for the well-being of an animal.

“We use this to teach 4-H youth life and leadership skills,” Menn said. “We need the next generation to learn how to be responsible. Those skills will transfer to the rest of their lives.”

Gebczyk said working with his dog takes lots of time and patience.

“It takes a lot of practice, and you have to be confident with your dog,” he said. “It takes a lot of leadership.”

Menn said a wide variety of breeds were judged – “everything from chihuahuas to German shepherds.” They also came from a wide variety of backgrounds, including rescue dogs. Seventeen-year-old Tarilyn Mikel of Sparta brought Rango, a yellow Labrador retriever who suffered from a harrowing experience in a puppy mill. Mikel said someone left a rubber band around Rango’s snout for an hour (the scars are still visible) and administered Advil, which is toxic to canines. He was later diagnosed with bone cancer.

Despite his difficult life as a puppy, Rango circulated comfortably among humans and his fellow dogs.

“He has had a tough life, but he’s happy, and he likes to be shown – everybody falls in love with him as soon as they see him,” Mikel said. “I just want him to have fun.”

Menn said Recreation Park is an outstanding facility to host a large dog show.

“They rotate the show around the state, and my committee is already talking about bringing it back here,” she said.



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Bill Halfman, Agriculture Agent

Agriculture Extension Highlights Update August 9, 2017 through Sept 11, 2017

Plot work continues with the various trials.

- Work on the corn plot has been learning about differences in the electronic color measuring instruments, which will result in knowing what can and can not be compared between instruments.
- All of the hops trials were harvested, the last one on September 2nd. Each variety matures at a different time.
- All treatments and bug counting were completed with the squash project.

We hosted the state Hops Growers Field Day in Monroe County at Tomah, There were 35 participants at the workshop which was comprised of presentations on managing fertilizer for optimum hops production, including updates on our project this year so far, a presentation on disease management, and a tour of Conant's hops operation east of Tomah, where they showed their fertilizer applicator that was adapted from what cranberry growers use, and general discussion and walk through the hops yard.

The Ag Agent is working with three farms during the past month on livestock housing options for remodeling and expansion of their current facilities.

Various farm visits were also conducted to help diagnose problems with crops, due to weather and insect problems.

The Ag Agent was approached by RFD-TV to record a half hour long radio program on beef cattle management in Spring and Fall and how much mud impacts cattle performance. The show will be on their satellite radio channel this fall and a smaller segment will be on one of their television programs around the same time.

The Ag Agent attended a forage crop in-service training at Marshfield. Topics included low lignin alfalfa, keys to success with baleage, alfalfa weed management, when it is not needed, a new project involving measuring harvest efficiency and decision tools to optimize equipment, and warm season annual forage opportunities in Wisconsin.

The Ag Agent is working with Dr. Dan Schaefer, UW Animal Science Dept, to put together a fact sheet on producing high quality Holstein steers, and with him and one of his graduate students to develop a partial budget spreadsheet tool for evaluating warm season forage species as a grazing option.

Upcoming Events- more to be added as they get finalized

Sept 13 Farm Transfer/ Transition needs assessment
Sept 14 farm visit- grazing system planning
Nov 9 Office Civil Rights Review
Nov 10 Agronomy Update