



**Extension Eau Claire County  
Monthly Highlights  
February 2019**

**Agriculture & Natural Resources**

**Agriculture**

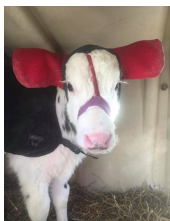


**Mark Hagedorn**

Agriculture Agent

Specializing in Dairy Science & Farm  
Management

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Since 2010, the **Wisconsin Dairy & Beef Well-Being Conference** has drawn over 1,500 attendees. Eau Claire County UW-Extension is pleased to provide world-class speakers on animal well-being to dairy and beef producers right here in Eau Claire Wisconsin. Our focus on animal well-being, health, and handling has proven to be a valuable asset to producers and processors alike.

The 2019 Wisconsin Dairy Well-Being Roadshow promises to offer exciting opportunities for dairy/beef farmers, agriculture professionals, and farm workers.

Agenda Items for this year's Conference focus on dairy topics:

- Understanding normal to identify abnormal
- Technology benefits to animal health
- Dehorning and pain mitigation
- Group housing calves

Please join us for the **2019 Wisconsin Dairy Well-Being Roadshow** at the Green Mill Conference and Banquet Facility, March 21, 2019

<https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/animalhusbandryconference/>

**Youth, Family, & Community Development**

**Community Development**



**Joseph Malual**

Community Educator

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To identify needs and priorities for programming, started conducting key informant interviews and meeting community leaders in Eau Claire County. I have had great conversations with community and organizations leaders with extensive knowledge and passion to improve the well-being of the people. I anticipate completing interviews by the end of March and begin to identify potential areas of programming as well as collaboration with existing systems as appropriate. While working on interviews and learning about the community, I also participate in ongoing collaborative interdisciplinary efforts to expand local food and increase income for local farmers while addressing food insecurity, particularly among struggling households.

In terms of organizational development and facilitation, I am currently facilitating strategic planning sessions for the Tandem Mentorship Program (<https://tandemmentorship.org/>), a new faith-based community organization that counseling and mentorship for at-risk youth in Eau Claire County and beyond. I am also working with the Land Conservation Department to facilitated discussions of various Ordinance associated with land use, including issues related to livestock productions and water quality. As results of these discussions, workgroups will be able to articulate issues and provide informed recommendation for consideration when adopting and implementing different Ordinance.

### Health & Well-Being



**Sandy Tarter**  
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**Joy Weisner**  
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**Pamela Warren-Armstrong**  
FoodWise Educator  
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The EC-Chippewa-Dunn Healthy Food Marketing Collaborative continues to move forward in our overall objective of supporting an economically viable local food system in rural Chippewa Valley. Currently a survey is being drafted to help us identify and talk with potential partners in our goal of connecting local sources of food to food security efforts and retailers like small c-stores, especially in rural/low food access areas. Our discussions include expanding farmers markets to rural areas and how to increase the redemption rate of WIC and senior vouchers at markets. Planning for the 2019 summer Market Match program is under way with posters and bookmarks ordered. I have received confirmation back from three of four sponsors for funding so thankfully that looks to be in good shape as well. I also continue my role in statewide governance on Extension's Academic Staff Council and Cooperative's Committee of Academic Staff Issues (CASI). We are reviewing all aspects of the transition to UW Madison as it applies to Academic Staff members for fairness and benefits, etc. This month specifically is the new performance management system, developing a Cooperative CASI within UW Madison, Regents Academic Staff Excellence Awards, and Promotion /Title Review Policy Post-Transition to UW System Admin. (Sandy)

Joy and Pamela are currently teaching nutrition in four elementary schools and one Head Start Center this month. They are reaching over 350 students in 18 classrooms once a week for 8 week period. They are hoping for no more SNOW days!

## Human Development & Relationships



**Brook Berg**  
Human Development &  
Relationships Educator  
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A team of three UW-Extension Family Living Educators (Brook Berg, Pattie Carroll and Lori Zierl) and state Digital Parenting Specialist Anne Clarkson developed and implemented a series of four weekly Facebook Live presentations in late 2018. The purpose of the project is to provide an alternative online format for delivering an interactive, research-based parenting program to support child-rearing responsibilities. As a result of participating in the program, parents will 1) understand the link between children's feelings and behavior, 2) understand how a child's behavior can affect family relationships, and 3) use new skills to promote positive behavior to improve a child's social and emotional competencies.

Recently, I presented a noon session on "Surviving the Store with your Toddler". The presentation focused on how parents, caregivers and those working with young children can handle tantrums and gain new skills in working with toddlers. The post reached over 2,300 people! Our team is wrapping up our 6 week session shortly, and Joy Weisner from FoodWise will be joining me on our next Parenting...Behind the Behavior about picky eaters! Look for more of these videos here: <https://www.facebook.com/UWExtensionFamilyLiving/> in the near future!

## Positive Youth Development



4-H Program Coordinator

On February 2, 2019 the Eau Claire County Agriculture Agent conducted two Instructor led YQCA (Youth for the Quality Care of Animals) sessions. The classes engaged over 50 Junior and Intermediate aged 4-H Youth and their parents in three important aspects of livestock Production -

- Food Safety
- Animal Well-Being
- Life Skills (SMART Goal Setting)

A final Instructor led session for Seniors will be offered April 1, 2019 at the Augusta High School. This Certification is a mandatory requirement for being involved in the Eau Claire County Livestock Project. Any youth that don't choose to participate in the Instructor Led offerings can get certified via an online/internet based certification process.

## Support Staff



**Kristi Peterson**

Office Coordinator

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Quite a bit of my time has been coordinating our transition with our branding. Extension Eau Claire County is now RED and has a new logo. This affects many areas, forms and items to be updated.

I have continued to work with the new and final year budget details with changeovers and details. The County continues to provide new and improved transitions.

Onboarding our newest employee has been a pleasure to be a part of and will continue to do so in the future with the 4-H and Horticulture positions soon.



**Andy Heren**

Administrative Specialist

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Most of my work at this time of year is getting ready for summer 4-H activities. We have already received registration forms for 4-H Summer Camp. I am also putting the finishing touches on the 2019 Eau Claire County Fair Book. I have started contacting judges for our County Fair, which is July 24-28.

I am looking forward to the next month as we prepare for interviews and the hiring of a 4-H Program Coordinator and a Horticulture Program Coordinator. I am excited about adding these new positions to our staff!

**We're a part of UW-Madison! Click here to read about Extension's transition updates.**

Developments in the planning process can be found at <https://universityrelations.wisc.edu/extension/>