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Agriculture &
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UW-Extension
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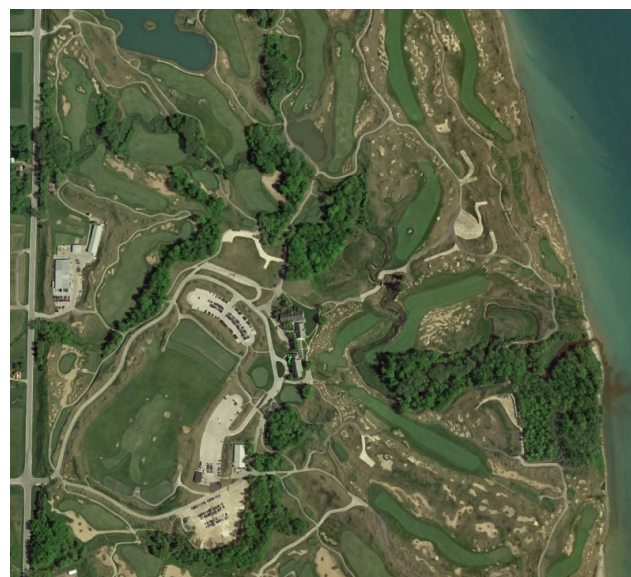
Community Growth Management Education

Kevin Struck, Growth Management Educator

The Town of Mosel asked Kevin to help them create, distribute, and tabulate a **citizen opinion survey** to obtain the preferences of Town residents and landowners regarding growth and planning issues, transportation, community services, agriculture, and economic development.

A total of 118 out of 410 surveys mailed out were returned (29%). Key findings included the following:

- ♦ About 70% indicated support for the Town's recently adopted zoning district that allows and regulates agritourism activities such as event barns, bed and breakfasts, farmer's markets, and u-pick operations.
- ♦ The "right to farm" concept continues to draw a large majority of support, even among non-farmers.
- ♦ Respondents were split on the question about new development around Whistling Straits, but if it does occur, single-family residential would have the most support.
- ♦ The condition/maintenance of the Town's road system was identified as the most serious issue facing the Town in the next 3 years, and likely beyond that.
- ♦ Waste disposal, recycling, fire protection, police protection, and ambulance services all had satisfaction levels of at least 62%, with fire protection leading the way at 81%.
- ♦ A pair of questions sought to capture how respondents view the Town of Mosel as a community now and into the future. In a 2004 survey, most respondents described Mosel as quiet and well located, and they hoped it would be primarily a "Mixed agricultural/residential community" and secondarily a "Rural, agricultural community." In 2018, quietness and location were still the two most liked attributes, but the vision for the future had changed slightly, with "Rural, agricultural community" taking the top spot and "Mixed agricultural/residential community" coming in second.



The Town Plan Commission and Town Board will now use the findings from the survey to guide the 10-year update to its comprehensive plan. Kevin has been asked to assist the Town with the plan.



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UW-Extension Sheboygan County October 2018 - IMPACT REPORT

Family Living and FoodWise

Jane Jensen, Family Living Educator

Follow-up evaluation for the six-part **"Powerful Tools for Caregivers"** evidence-based series (August-September, 2018), co-facilitated by Jane, found that all participants—who had been in their family caregiving role for anywhere from two to 12 years—indicated they had increased their skills after the series. They said they had more confidence in their caregiving ability and they were more able to assert themselves with others to get help. All would recommend the series to others.

They also described increased abilities in 1) self-care and stress reduction, 2) locating caregiving resources, 3) making difficult caregiving decisions, 4) taking care of their personal health, and 5) dealing with their emotions. All indicated they planned to use at least eight of the tools learned through the series, which included: action planning, long-range goal setting, assertive communication, relaxation methods, family meetings, positive self-talk, long-range goal planning, etc.

This is the only series in the county offered entirely in the evening in order to respond to the needs of employed family caregivers. Two of the participants are in paid employment and indicated they would not have been able to participate had the series been offered during the day. Participants said: "Thank you for the awesome facilitators. Personable, knowledgeable, kind, articulate, and helpful." ... "Thank you! I will take these last six weeks with me for a lifetime." ... "I felt the facilitators were excellent, informative, caring, and very willing to listen." ... "The series is a good entry point to other resources of which I had been unaware."

Amanda Miller & Janeth Orozco, FoodWise

FoodWise has been partnering with Forward Services Corporation to assist low-income families and individuals in developing the necessary skills to make good use of their food resources while making healthy choices. Using the **Healthy Cents** curriculum, Janeth has been able to teach several six-lesson series to mostly parents of young children.

Healthy Cents is a curriculum developed by the University of Maryland. Healthy Cents combines nutrition education and food resource management principles to encourage limited resource families and individuals to make healthy food choices on a limited budget. A woman who participated in these classes through Forward Services told Janeth that she was ready to use what she learned to make healthy choices. She indicated she had taken notes and that over the weekend she was going grocery shopping. The following week, when asked, the woman indicated she made sure to buy healthy foods and to use the unit price to compare prices. "I bought only lean meat, whole grain products, and a lot of fruits and vegetables" she said.



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Agriculture and Natural Resources

Mike Ballweg, Agriculture Agent

Eastern Wisconsin makes up much of the state’s wheat belt. Including winter wheat in the cropping rotation leads to a more productive and sustainable agricultural system.

In an effort to further strengthen the winter wheat production practices here, UW-Extension developed the **Managing Winter Wheat for Increased Profits** seminar to provide research updates. Approximately 30 farmers and industry agronomists attended the seminar held at Millhome Supper Club in Kiel.



Research topics included the following:

- **Choosing Successful Winter Wheat Varieties, Crop Management Decisions, and Staging Wheat**
Shawn Conley, UW-Madison Soybean and Wheat Specialist
- **Winter Wheat Diseases and Fungicide Selection and Timing**
Damon Smith, UW-Madison Field Crops Plant Pathologist
- **Profitability and the 4R’s for Wheat Management**
Carrie Laboski, UW-Madison Soil Scientist

Updates included discussions on variety selection and disease resistance, using fungicide applications and nitrogen application rates and timing. The program was described as very informative and useful.



Winter Wheat Research Plot

Bringing Research and New Apps to the Farm

Sporecaster is a new smartphone app designed to help farmers predict the need for a fungicide application to control white mold in soybean. The research and development of the app was led by Dr, Damon Smith, UW-Madison Plant Pathology Department. This tool has been further evaluated in Sheboygan County this summer to help ensure the accuracy of the model.

The purpose of the app is to assist farmers in making early season management decisions for white mold in soybean. The best time to spray fungicides for white mold is during flowering (R1 and R3 growth stages) when apothecia (small, mushroom-like structures) are present on the soil surface. Apothecia release spores that infect senescing soybean flowers, leading to the development of white mold.

Sporecaster uses university research to turn a few simple taps on a smartphone screen into an instant forecast of the risk of apothecia being present in a soybean field, which helps growers predict the best timing for white mold treatment during the flowering period.

UW-Extension Sheboygan County

4-H Youth Development

Sarah Tarjeson, 4-H Youth Development Educator and Linda Robson, 4-H Youth Development Program Coordinator



This summer, I was given the opportunity to be the **Sheboygan County 4-H Youth Development Intern**. This internship helped me to continue to grow my leadership and communication skills, expand my professional and social network, and gave me some pretty great stories to tell! I applied for the internship partly because I wanted to get back into the 4-H world, but also because I would like to eventually work with both adults and youth, where I’m hands-on and in their communities. My goals were to focus on improving my business communication skills, to challenge myself with more leadership roles by running different events and meetings, and to work on my creativity and time management skills. I was able to put these all into practice during this summer.

My first event was helping run a tent at Free Fishing Day in the beginning of June. I then began planning my biggest event ever—Clover Bud Day Camp—which ended up being a pretty great day, with 46 K-3rd graders running around UW-Extension! Of course, I had a group of 16 amazing and talented older youth who helped out as counselors for the day and played a huge role in the camp’s success! Planning this camp definitely tested my creativity skills, and I was also able to work on my time management skills.

Next, I traveled along to Base and Outpost Camp, which was probably the most tiring, but most entertaining two weeks of the summer. I was able to work on my quick-thinking, creativity, and leadership skills. I met a lot of passionate adults who truly care about 4-H and learned more about the behind-the-scenes work that goes on in the 4-H world. I was able to work on some of my business communication skills at various meetings and while writing emails to various people and companies. I now even have a scar as a reminder of how fun “Capture the Flag” was during the 4-H Lock-In!

My last assignment involved helping to prepare for the County Fair! This included display setup, finding and calling booth judges, and endless trips to Wal-Mart.

This internship has opened my eyes and has exposed me to new surroundings. Working alongside Sarah Tarjeson and Linda Robson has been a very positive experience. They’ve both helped me become more confident in myself as a leader, and have helped with my transition into working my first “office job.” I want to thank both of them from the bottom of my heart for this amazing and incredibly fun opportunity! Nancy Brown was also a huge help in learning the ropes of the office, and filling me in on new tips or tricks to make projects go faster or more smoothly. I really couldn’t have asked for better teachers, and I’m so grateful for the new skills, confidence, and experience they have helped me achieve this summer.

Now I return to UW-Milwaukee to start my junior year. Because of this internship, I would like to add on either a minor or certificate in Youth Development, so that I can continue to work with youth of all ages in different communities.

Thank you, Sheboygan County, for all of the memories we’ve made. It was a great summer. *Kiana*