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Agriculture &  
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Extension  
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## Extension Sheboygan County

### Community Development Education

#### Kevin Struck, Community Development Educator

The City of Sheboygan Falls (pop. 7,951) is a community with a historic downtown, a new business park, and several new housing developments. It is one of the few area communities that has seen significant growth in the last few years. Bordered by STH 23 on the north, the City abuts the Village of Kohler on the east, the Town of Sheboygan Falls on the west, and the Town of Lima on the south. Parts of three rivers flow through its corporate limits—the Sheboygan, Mullet, and Onion. Like other cities in Sheboygan County, Sheboygan Falls has a zoning ordinance and a comprehensive plan (adopted on September 1, 2009) to help encourage sustainable growth while preserving the qualities of the community that residents and visitors value.



**Wisconsin requires that comprehensive plans be updated at least once every 10 years.**

Since the City had worked with Kevin successfully in the past, the mayor asked him for assistance in meeting the September 2019 deadline for updating the City's Plan. Kevin worked with the City during multiple night meetings updating Census data and other information that had changed since the 2009 Plan, such as:

- ◆ Substantial increase in residents 75+ years of age
- ◆ Major increase in percentage of one-person households (nationally & locally)
- ◆ Increase in ratio of multi-family housing to single-family housing
- ◆ County non-motorized transportation projects completed in Sheboygan Falls
- ◆ County Economic Development Corporation resources for local communities
- ◆ Impact of Recession on property values & number of years it took to recover
- ◆ County sales tax and street repair
- ◆ Railroad reconstruction through the City
- ◆ Emerald ash borer impact on trees in the City
- ◆ Roundabout construction at STH 32 and Happy Lane

After a public hearing was held and no comments were received in opposition to the proposed comprehensive plan amendment, the City's Common Council voted unanimously to adopt the update.



## Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON  
SHEBOYGAN COUNTY

October  
2019  
IMPACT  
REPORT

### Human Development and Relationships & FoodWise

#### Extension Sheboygan County Staff

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Michael J. Ballweg  
Agriculture Educator

Jane E. Jensen  
Human Development &  
Relationships Educator

Sarah J. Tarjeson  
4-H Youth  
Development Educator

Linda Robson  
4-H  
Program Coordinator

Kevin Struck  
Community Development  
Educator

Amanda Miller  
FoodWise Coordinator  
(shared with Fond du Lac)

Janeth Orozco  
FoodWise Nutrition  
Educator

#### Administrative Assistants

Tammy Zorn  
Nancy Brown

#### Area Extension Director

Cindy Sarkady

#### Jane Jensen, Human Development and Relationships Educator

Follow-up evaluation for the six-part ["Powerful Tools for Caregivers" evidence-based series](#) (Aug - Sept, 2019) co-facilitated by Jane found that all participants—who had been in their family caregiving role for anywhere from one to 20 plus years—indicated they had increased skills after the series. They said they had more confidence in their caregiving ability and that 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 a minimum of seven 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 series, offered in collaboration with the ADRC onsite at Sharon S. Richardson Community Hospice, is the only one in the county offered entirely in the evening to meet the needs of employed family caregivers. (Four of the participants indicated they wouldn't have been able to attend if the series had been offered during the day.)

#### Amanda Miller & Janeth Orozco, FoodWise

The following highlights are from the Sheboygan County FoodWise program's FY19 fiscal year (from October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019 . . .

- 4,050 individuals were reached. **This is an increase of 2,253 from the previous fiscal year.** This is primarily due to shifting staff time to better, more quality programs.
- Individuals were of all ages, from preschoolers to senior adults
- 21% (n = 720) were under the age of 5 years
- 65% (n = 2,789) were 5 - 17 years
- 6% (n = 198) were 18 - 59 adults
- 9% (n = 343) were senior adults
- 56 groups received series lessons (3 - 5 classes), in addition to weekly classes yearlong at Forward Services. 13 agencies partnered with FoodWise to provide nutrition education at their sites.



For more information, look forward to the FoodWise annual report coming soon!



# Extension Sheboygan County

## Agriculture and Natural Resources

### Mike Ballweg, Extension Agriculture Educator

Sheboygan County farmers faced significant challenges planting crops in 2019. **Planting challenges** faced farmers not only here, but throughout the Midwest—and it was especially challenging in Northeast Wisconsin. The U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) reported that Wisconsin totaled 601,807 acres of “prevent plant,” of which 16,472 acres were tallied in Sheboygan County. Delayed spring planting and prevent plant acres presented a unique challenge to area farmers to produce adequate crops for forage.



In late June 2019, the USDA ruled that prevent plant acres should be planted to a cover crop. The intention of this decision was to help reduce soil erosion and at the same time afford farmers the opportunity to harvest cover crops as a forage crop after September 1st.

Mike assisted area farmers with making decisions regarding their cover crops options on prevent plant acres and to provide information about mid-summer forage crops. He also provided guidance to the USDA Risk Management Crop Insurance agencies to help them determine appropriate cover crops on prevent plant acres.

To further address the unique 2019 growing conditions, The Sheboygan County Forage Council, in Cooperation with Extension Sheboygan County, held a Summer Twilight meeting for farmers and agriculture professionals to learn about harvesting mid-summer planted corn for optimal forage yields and quality. The program was held on August 22nd at Double Dutch Dairy, The Stapel Families, and Cedar Grove, WI. Nearly 60 area farmers and agriculture industry professionals attended the twilight meeting.

Dr. Joe Lauer, UW-Madison Extension Corn Specialist, is responsible for conducting applied research and delivering Extension programs relating to corn grain and corn silage production for Wisconsin. Joe provided an in-depth look at “**Managing, Harvesting and Pricing Late Planted Corn for Silage.**”

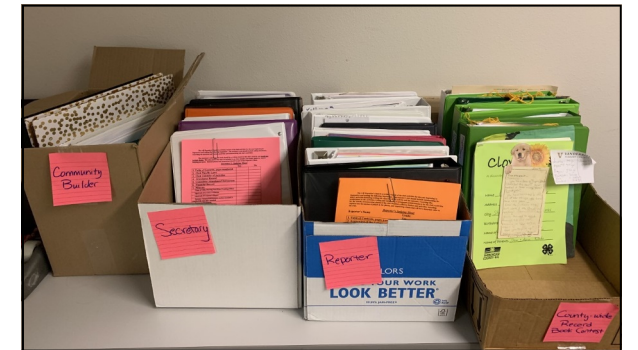
Dr. Steve Woodford is a Dairy Nutritionist with Nutrition Professionals Inc. in Sheboygan Falls. Woodford discussed “**The Benefits of High Quality Forages and What I Have learned Feeding High Producing Dairy Herds.**”

# Extension Sheboygan County

## 4-H Youth Development

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

Fall is always a very exciting time for 4-H. The 4-H year runs October 1st - September 30th. With that, **we are wrapping up the past program year and kicking off a new year!** Youth members are busy reflecting on their year as they complete their Record Books, Trips and Award Applications, Clover Award Applications, and Club Officer Books. Volunteers take the time to review the applications and interview the youth, teaching valuable life skills with application completion and interview presence. The club leaders work with the youth to complete the Club and Committee Charter Applications. They reflect on their SMART goals that were set last year, review their finances and set their SMART goals and calendar for the upcoming year. 4-H Youth Development Staff often help guide the completion of the application along with reviewing it for accountability.



As youth and adult volunteers are enrolling in 4-H, clubs and projects are welcoming new and returning families. The majority of 4-H enrollment happens from September 1st - November 1st. This past year we worked with clubs to set a goal of increasing their membership by 10% in the 2019 - 2020 4-H year. We held two meetings to help with this goal—one focused on Expanding Access with recruitment ideas, and the second on retention of current members.

Linda and Sarah were able to promote joining Sheboygan County 4-H through the **annual 4-H Open House**. The 4-H Open House is advertised through postcards printed in English, Spanish, and Hmong that are distributed to all Sheboygan County Schools to youth in 2nd - 4th grade. A flyer promoting 4-H and the 4-H Open House was created for El Mensajero Latino, a free monthly Hispanic publication for the Fox Cities and surrounding areas. This Spanish language flyer advertised the benefits of joining 4-H and attending the 4-H Open Houses in Sheboygan, Fond du Lac, and Brown Counties. **In Sheboygan County, we had 37 families attend and talk with 12 clubs and 14 projects.**

