



Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
WAUPACA COUNTY

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Meet Amy Ebert & Hailee Struck!



My name is Amy Ebert and I am thrilled to be the newest Program Assistant at UW-Extension Waupaca County! I was interested in the role because Extension's mission aligns with my professional goals: to help create empowered, healthy, and connected communities. It has been wonderful working with such a dedicated group of educators and support staff. Currently I attend UW-Superior to earn my B.S. in Health and Wellness Management. I am also a certified yoga instructor, and I plan to weave mindfulness and well-being practices into my future outreach and education efforts. When I'm not at work or school, I enjoy staying active, listening to music, cooking, and spending time with my family and husband, Ben.

Amy can be reached at 715-258-6331 or amy.ebert@wisc.edu



Hello my name is Hailee Struck and I am the new UW Extension Foodwise Nutrition Educator for Calumet, Outagamie, Winnebago and Waupaca counties. In addition, I am pursuing my degree in Human Services Leadership at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh. I have been married to my wonderful husband for six years and I have two children, ages four and two. In my spare time I enjoy being in the great outdoors. I am excited to be in this new role and look forward to utilizing my passion in helping individuals in need.

Hailee can be reached at 715-258-6480 or hstruck@wisc.edu



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Jessica Beckendorf
Community Development

Greg Blonde
Agriculture

Christi Gabriliska
FoodWise

Sandy Liang
Human Development & Relationships

Hailee Struck
FoodWise

Penny Tank
4-H Youth Development

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Area Extension Director

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Extension Impact: Education Makes a Difference

Leadership Waupaca County Class XX Kicks Off!

Jessica Beckendorf, Community Development Educator

On August 20, the Leadership Waupaca County 2019-2020 class kicked off with an energetic orientation. This year promises to be one of our 20 best classes! In honor of our 20th class, below is a little top 10 sneak peek at what the year has in store for our participants:

1. Say goodbye to Moodle and "hello!" to Canvas! With Extension's transition to UW-Madison comes a brand new online courseware system. Dana and I are excited to deploy this system as it is much more user friendly (and easier for us to administer, too!).
2. Introduction of Applied Improvisation tools to build communication and speaking skills.
3. Real Colors personality assessment (always a favorite!).
4. NEW Workshops: "What is Leadership?" and "Leading Across Boundaries" with guest presenters from UW-Stevens Point.
5. Enhanced support for community projects.
6. Trauma Informed Care FACILITATOR training (this will serve as one of their opportunities for public speaking practice!).
7. Farm tour(s) – location(s) yet to be announced, but this is always a favorite among participants!
8. Local Government 101 with Diane Muelemans, County Jail tour and County Department Head interviews.
9. State government trip to Madison (educational AND a crowd pleaser!).
10. Meaningful network building and much MORE!

Mark your calendars for TWO important dates: All county board members are invited to attend a continental breakfast with Leadership Waupaca County on **December 12** at 8:30 a.m. Please contact Dana Nelson to RSVP for this FREE event. Finally, I hope to see you all at the graduation, which will be on **April 30th** this year.



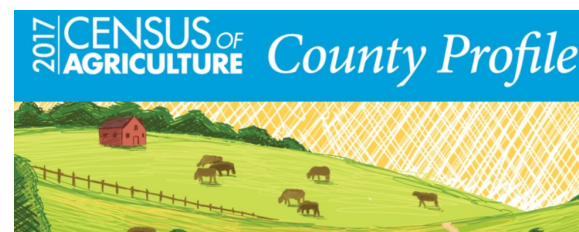
Find all things LWC at our website:
<https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/leadershipwaupacaco/>

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Waupaca County Census of Ag Summary

Greg Blonde, Waupaca County Agriculture Extension Agent



Results from the five-year 2017 nationwide Census of Agriculture were released earlier this summer, including a summary report for each state and county. The Waupaca County “Profile” report is now available on the Waupaca County Extension office website at: <https://waupaca.extension.wisc.edu/agriculture/>.

The census identified 1,652 producers (one-third women) on 1,031 farms in Waupaca County (10% fewer farms than 2012). Nearly three-quarters of all producers in Waupaca County (72%) identified Agriculture as their primary or “full-time” occupation. While the average age of “principal operators” is just over 56 years, twenty-percent (20%) of all producers in Waupaca County are classified as “new or beginning” farmers. One-fourth (260) of all farms in Waupaca County hire non-family labor with an annual payroll over \$16 million.

Dairy farmers generated the most farm product sales (63%) in Waupaca County in 2017 worth over \$95 million. Waupaca ranks in the top 25% among all dairy producing counties in Wisconsin (17th of 68) and among the top 5% nationwide (90th of 1,892 counties). Forage crops, including all hay, haylage and corn silage, were harvested on more than 40% (57,000 acres) of all cropland in Waupaca County to feed local dairy and livestock animals. Other leading crops produced in Waupaca County include corn for grain on more than 37,000 acres (26%) and soybeans on nearly 30,000 acres (20%). Other crops include small grains, as well as commercial fruits and vegetables grown on nearly 6,000 acres (<5%).

While nearly all farms (97%) are still classified as family farms, internet access is now available on nearly three-fourths (74%) of all Waupaca County farms.

2019 Golden Awards Announced

Christi Gabriliska, FoodWise Nutrition Coordinator

The FoodWise team traveled to Madison in August for their annual summer regional meeting where the 2019 Golden Award recipients were recognized. FoodWise Coordinator, Christi Gabriliska was presented with the Golden Innovative Award. FoodWise colleagues had the following to say about the work Christi has done in Waupaca County, which she received her Golden Innovative Award for:

“Christi shows an independent drive to craft flexible and effective solutions for each community change, and expanding access in programming is a natural part of her leadership.”

As part of an effort to improve equity at the Waupaca Farmers Market, Christi completed a year-long Wisconsin Leadership Institute Program to dig deeper into issues including expanding access, coalition building and leading with creativity.

She adapted the “Yuck to Yum” program for Waupaca County, providing one of the first coordinated innovative FoodWise cooking with kids programs in the state, and Christi worked on the Buy Local, Buy Wisconsin Grant, that funded a farmers market manager for 3 years, plus brought EBT to the market one year later.”

Christi will celebrate 6 years in her role on October 1st.



2019 GOLDEN INNOVATIVE AWARD IS PRESENTED TO Christi Gabriliska for her outstanding commitment to creating innovative solutions & approaches to address the diverse needs of our communities.

4-H Evening Summer Camp

Penny Tank, 4-H Program Coordinator



4-H sponsored Evening Summer Camp was held on July 25 at the Fairgrounds in Weyauwega. This camp is a great opportunity for non 4-H members to come learn more about 4-H, current 4-H members get to experience a camp setting on a smaller scale, and older youth have the chance to practice being a counselor/helper with the younger campers. Seventeen youth and adults either led sessions or served as counselors. Activity sessions included tower building, minute to win it team building games, bubble making, and mason jar crafts (shown in the included photos). The campers were divided into 4 color groups and rotated between each session along with supper. There were also seven more adults that ran registration and coordinated the meal included with camp. We had 53 campers grades K-4 from across Waupaca County (this was 6 more than last year) that attended. Close to 45% of the campers were non 4-H members. Through additional outreach efforts in Weyauwega and with Victory Church in Waupaca, 11 of the non 4-H members came with their families after their Vacation Bible School program for additional outdoor family fun at camp. One family not currently enrolled in 4-H emailed Penny the next day right away to ask about 4-H clubs in their area. Evaluations were very positive and the campers had an enjoyable evening.



Rent Smart Workshop Gives Individuals and Families Foundation for Successful Renting

Sandy Liang, Human Development and Relationships Extension Educator

Last year, Mission of Hope-House (MOHH) opened its doors in New London. It is the first 24/7 homeless shelter in Waupaca County. The shelter offers programs to enhance clients’ skills and knowledge for their next steps as part of their mission to “restore hope through community connections”.

Safe and stable housing is key to individual and family well-being. However, it can be difficult when individuals have little to no rental experience, have poor rental or credit history. Some have faced evictions or other personal issues that may cause potential landlords to perceive them as high-risk tenants. As a response, Liang began offering Rent Smart workshops at the shelter, a program to start participants on the path for success. Some workshop components include:

- Gaining confidence to ability to find and maintain affordable housing
- Understanding the application process
- Learn the responsibilities and rights of tenants and landlords

Since July, three workshops have been held. End-of-session surveys show that participants have found it helpful—for example, 100% of participants reported that they “better understand how finances affect getting or keeping rental property” and “better understand responsibilities as a tenant”, key aspects in successfully maintaining housing.

Lori Pahl, the shelter’s Director of Operations/Programming says, “Rent Smart” is a vital tool in the planning and maintaining of affordable housing. Mission of Hope House’s Vision is to engage our community in the fight to end homelessness and this collaborative offering is having a notable impact!”

