

## **Buelke Schroeder inducted into the state 4-H Youth Development Hall of Fame**

### **Mequon woman developed many programs as 4-H leader**

MEQUON — Mequon resident Kay Buelke Schroeder was inducted into the Wisconsin 4-H Youth Development Hall of Fame during a ceremony at Green Lake Conference Center Nov. 5.

“Each of the 2016 Wisconsin 4-H Hall of Fame laureates has transformed the lives of children and families with whom they’ve worked and the communities in which they’ve lived,” said Dale Leidheiser, program director of Wisconsin 4-H Youth Development, which is part of the University of Wisconsin-Extension.

During more than 30 years as a 4-H Youth Development Agent, Professor Emerita Buelke Schroeder’s educational programs adapted as the needs of Ozaukee County’s youth and families changed. She played an instrumental role in the development of many programs, such as youthadult partnerships, by involving youth leaders on boards and committees in the Ozaukee County 4-H program to learn decision-making, according to a commendation.

Buelke Schroeder was an active collaborator in the community to address youth issues through the Ozaukee County Child Abuse Prevention Public Awareness Committee; the Red Ribbon Campaign, focused on alcohol, tobacco and other drug use prevention and awareness programs; and the county’s 4-H Ambassador Teaching Team program, focused on environmental and character education. She was a co-author of the original and revised statewide Youth Protection Program Curriculum.

Following retirement, Buelke Schroeder has served in multiple volunteer roles with the Wisconsin Museum of Quilts & Fiber Arts, starting with key roles on the board as the new museum was designed and renovated. She was the curator of a gallery exhibit titled “Celebrating 100 Years of 4-H Fiber Arts.” She also shared her love of quilting, first by establishing and now by serving as a volunteer for the Ozaukee County 4-H Quilt project, working with more than 100 youth countywide in the project since 2008.

Buelke Schroeder’s passion for positive youth development has been evident as she utilized her knowledge, vision and impressive ability to develop youth-adult partnerships, supported youth in significant leadership roles and assumed leadership roles locally and statewide, according to her commendation.

The Wisconsin 4-H Hall of Fame was established to recognize 4-H volunteers, financial supporters, staff and pioneers who made major contributions to the 4-H movement at the local, state and national levels. The candidates represent 4-H in the broadest sense – people who had an impact on the lives of children, their community or state through significant contributions of time, energy or financial resources to 4-H and its members.

The Hall of Fame ceremony and dinner were held during the annual Wisconsin 4-H Fall Forum weekend. Fall Forum is an opportunity for youth and adult leaders to attend a statewide training weekend with county and state staff to develop relationships, facilitate discussion between counties and provide an opportunity for youth and adult volunteers to be involved in the planning and evaluation of state programs.



Kay Buelke Schroeder, center, was inducted into the Wisconsin 4-H Hall of Fame. She is pictured with Wisconsin 4-H Youth Development Program Director Dale Leidheiser, left, and Wisconsin Leadership Council Youth President Sarah Schuster.

Submitted photo