



**Extension**

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON  
OZAUKEE COUNTY



## Monthly Report August 2020

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### AGRICULTURE

**Stephanie Plaster**

When agricultural market conditions deteriorate, we need to keep our focus on the “WIN” or What’s Important Now. To help farmers assess the farm’s existing financial position and build a plan for moving forward, Stephanie and another colleague developed [“Defining Our New Reality - Where Do I Begin”](#) released broadly in spring.

The long-term health and success of the family and farm operation depends on an accurate assessment of the farm’s existing financial position. Tactical decisions based on quality information are crucial for a successful outcome. Seven key steps can help ensure an accurate assessment of the farm’s existing strengths and vitality, while also revealing areas of concern or opportunity.

1. Know the Value of Your Assets
2. Understand Your Obligations
3. Communicate Openly and Honestly
4. Determine Your Family Living Expense
5. Put a Stop to New or Unnecessary Contracts and Spending
6. Review and Understand Your Family, Farm, and Life Goals Plan Your Work and Work Your Plan

Completing these seven steps may be valuable to virtually all business owners in order to help them take control of their financial situation and to turn areas of concern into business opportunities.

This material is available on the Extension Farm Management website and will be featured in an upcoming Farm Management Update webinar this fall.

### 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

**Jayna Hintz**

4-H members are eager to get together to learn and share. Currently we are approaching in-person programming with intentional steps. These steps follow CDC, Wisconsin Department of Health Services, and UW-Madison guidance. Working within these guidelines 4-H is doing remarkable, holding over 200 in-person approved summer programs across the state in addition to a robust calendar of virtual/distance learning opportunities for young people. Providing a safe learning environment is a priority and the reason all 4-H programs currently being planned are required to go through an approval process. Once COVID ends the review process will end. Jayna has worked with Ozaukee County 4-H volunteers to plan nine approved safe and meaningful in-person programs/events.

As we prepare for the 2020-2021 4-H year, many are wondering what 4-H will look like this year. There is no doubt that this year will look a little different than we expected. We will continue to develop and share ideas and plans to create safe learning environments that engage youth in leading and learning. Focusing on what we can do, and the types of meetings and activities 4-H families were interested in attending, Jayna sent out a survey and as of today received 93 responses. Families' interests range from 32% interested in Zoom club and project meetings, 47% a hybrid of virtual and in-person meetings, and 39% prefer in-person meetings in small groups of ten spread out with a maximum of 50 people attending. Overlap exists in the responses, members' could select all of the program formats. We look forward to developing a variety of delivery methods and programs during the 2020-2021 4-H year.

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# We Teach, Learn, Lead And Serve, Connecting People With The University of Wisconsin, And Engaging With Them In Transforming Lives And Communities.

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## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

### Karina Ward

During times of change and uncertainty, leading with purpose becomes increasingly important. Whether your organization is considering new fundraising opportunities, shifting programs from in-person to virtual, or reviewing your budget with sustainability in mind, a strategic vision helps ensure that every decision and action aligns with short- and long-term goals.

A vision statement describes what the organization will be, act, and look like in the future. It is intended to serve as a guide for choosing courses of action and making decisions. Vision statements are often created and updated as part of the strategic planning process. Strategic planning may bring up memories of a long process that resulted in a document that was seldom used, but that does not have to be the case.

Karina works with groups of all types and sizes on strategic planning using innovative processes and methods to create an effective and fun experience. Using virtual platforms allows this work to engage a wider audience and provides additional tools for small group work. A recent participant shared that working with Karina on strategic planning was “an enjoyable experience.”

One such innovation is the WHY Discovery Process based on Simon Sinek’s Golden Circle concept. Sinek suggests that organizations that lead with their purpose or WHY are able to inspire greater loyalty and engagement. The discovery process uses a series of conversations to capture the contributions an organization makes to others and the overall impact made. The outcome of these conversations is a WHY statement that inspires.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

September 8, 22, 2020

- [4-H Harbinger Newsletter](#) published

September 10, 15, 23, 2020

- [4-H Conversation Corners](#), Online, Times Vary

September 12, 2020

- 4-H Resume & Interview Workshop, Online, 9-12 noon

September 14,17,21,24,28, Oct.1, 2020

- [Rent Smart Virtual Training](#), Online, 1-2

September 17, 2020

- 4-H Leaders Association Board Meeting, Online, 6 pm.
- 4- H Leaders Association Meeting, Online, 7:30 pm.

September 24, 2020

- Farm Management Update: Eastern WI Forages, Online, 1-2:30 pm.

October 2020

- 4-H Re-enrollment Period



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We are serving and supporting our community through research and virtual education during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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