



## Monthly Report January 2021

### AGRICULTURE

**Stephanie Plaster**

The Extension Farm Management Program launched their new *Farm Management Fridays* series this January as part of the broader Agriculture Institute's *Farm Ready Research* series. This farm management series will be held on various Fridays from January through May as YouTube livestreams and then will transition to a newsletter through the spring and summer. Stephanie is co-leading the webinar series and the newsletter release. In January three sessions were held: Navigating Your Farm Business Through 2021, In It for the Long Haul...Cash Flow During a Crisis, and Farm-Gate Economic Outlook Forum. Two hundred and five people logged on to the webinar. The sessions were recorded and closed captioned so they could be released publicly. The videos continue to be viewed online and the evaluations are currently being taken.

Stephanie will be speaking at both of the February sessions on farm succession. February 5 at 11am will be "Stand Strong and Resolute as a Guardian of Your Equity" and February 19 at 11 am will be "Cultivating Your Farm's Future: Is Fair Equal?"



Farm Ready Research is Extension's agriculture winter webinar series for farmers and ag professionals. Join the webinars to learn the most up-to-date information for farm management and dairy & livestock production. Sessions run weekly through April 2021. See a full list of topics and register at [go.wisc.edu/FarmReadyResearch](https://go.wisc.edu/FarmReadyResearch)

### 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

**Jayna Hintz**

Over the last five months, 4-H Program Educators from Fond du Lac, Ozaukee, and Washington County have been meeting virtually with youth from the three counties to plan the first Tri-County Visual Arts Festival. 4-H is a positive youth development program that values youth and adult partnerships and the youth are truly partners in planning this event. The youth on the planning committee participated fully at each meeting, selecting the festival's theme, the format, and securing funding from their respective 4-H Leaders Associations. The committee continues to meet and is making plans to invite the 4-H Cloverbuds (5k-2nd grade) from each country to participate in take and learn project kits and provide time for sharing and reflecting what they learn. The youth researched cost, materials, and skill levels for the activities. All the kits will incorporate this year's theme: "Nature in Art." The committee's final tasks are to prepare for the virtual judging and presentation of artwork submitted. Virtual judging takes place on March 13 followed by a Meet the Artist session.

Youth that take on leadership roles within 4-H enhance their confidence, self-awareness, critical thinking, problem solving, planning, managing, communicating, interacting effectively with others, and building positive relationships with peers and adults.

The Tri-County Visual Arts Festival committee is inviting all youth (third grade through one year out of high school) in the three counties to enter artwork into the contest. Artwork must be submitted digitally by Monday, February 15th. In addition to the artwork, youth are asked to answer reflection questions, as reflection is key to experiential learning and one of the cornerstones of 4-H.



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## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

### Karina Ward

The strategic planning chairs of the Ozaukee County 4-H Foundation contacted Karina to facilitate a strategic planning process with the organization's strategic planning committee. Given COVID-19, Karina adapted her facilitation techniques to four 90-minute virtual sessions that engaged the committee members and key partners in a WHY Discovery process followed by goal-setting and prioritization.

During the first session, participants shared stories that captured the Foundation at its best and developed a list of the contributions the Foundation makes to the lives of others. Those contributions were used to create the following WHY statement, or purpose statement, during the second session: To invest in 4-H youth so that they can connect with their passions, develop a strong self-identity, and expand their worldview. The third session focused on setting goals that align the Foundation with its purpose while the fourth session created potential actions steps and began the prioritization process.

Through evaluation, 100% of participants agreed that creating an organizational WHY statement helped define their direction and that the process of identifying and prioritizing goals increased the organization's ability to identify issues and set priorities. Participants evaluated Karina's overall facilitation as a 5.0 on a 5-point Likert Scale (1=poor and 5=excellent).

One participant shared that Karina "is an excellent facilitator. She is very approachable and has [a] demeanor that puts people at ease allowing/encouraging their full participation in the session."

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**February 2, 4, 9, 11, 16, 18, 2021**

- [Rent Smart Training](#), 1 pm, Zoom

**February 8, 2021**

- [Heart of the Farm Coffee Chat](#) - How to Read & Understand Your Milk Check, 10 am., Zoom

**February 9, 23, 2021**

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

**February 11, 25, 2021**

- [4-H Kansas Virtual Exchange](#), 6 pm., Zoom

**February 15, 2021**

- [4-H Visual Arts Festival](#) Entry Deadline
- [STEM-Design a Parachute Challenge](#), 6:30 pm., Zoom
- [Ozaukee County Talks About Race](#), 6 pm, Zoom

**February 17, 2021**

- 4-H Conversation Corner (Tentative), Time TBA. - check website

**February 18, 2021**

- 4-H Leaders Association Board Meeting, 6 pm. Zoom

**February 24, 2021**

- [Glitter Calming Jar Seminar](#), 6:30 pm., Zoom

**February 25, 2021**

- Ozaukee Master Gardeners General Meeting, 7 pm., Zoom

**March 2, 2021**

- [Explore Monoprinting](#), 6:30 pm., Zoom

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