



# ***GREEN LAKE COUNTY***

*571 County Road A, Green Lake, WI 54941*

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**February 27, 2017**

**The following documents are included in the packet for the Ag/Extension Education & Fair Committee Meeting on Tuesday, March 7, 2017:**

- 1) Cover Sheet
- 2) Agenda
- 3) Draft minutes from the February 14, 2017 meeting
- 4) County Library Reports
- 5) Educator Reports for: Jay Dampier (Community Resource & Economic Development), John de Montmollin (4-H Youth Development), Katie Gellings (Family Living), and Nav Ghimire (Agriculture Agent).



**AGRICULTURE, EXTENSION EDUCATION & FAIR  
MEETING NOTICE**

***Date: Tuesday, March 7, 2017 – 10:00 a.m.  
Green Lake County Government Center, Training Room  
571 County Road A, Green Lake, Wisconsin***

**AGENDA**

**Committee Members:**  
Joanne Guden,  
Chairperson  
Bob Schweder, Vice-  
Chairperson  
Patti Garro  
Katie Mehn  
David Richter

*Mailing Address:*  
**Green Lake County  
UW-Extension  
PO Box 3188  
Green Lake WI 54941-  
3188  
920-294-4032  
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1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance
2. Certification of Open Meeting Notice
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of the February 14, 2017 Minutes
5. Public Comments – 3 Minute Limit
6. Public Appearances
7. County Library Services Report – Linda DeNell, Caestecker Public Library, Green Lake
  - a. Submitted Monthly Report
8. Correspondence
9. **FAIR – 2017**
  - a. 2017 Fair Contracts – Discussion/Approval
  - b. Informational Handouts – Discussion/Approval
  - c. Green Lake County Fair Promotions Committee – Update
10. **UW-EXTENSION**
  - a. Educator Report – Katie Gellings, Family Living Educator
  - b. Educators’ Summary of Monthly Reports & Relevant Trainings, Meetings & Programs
  - c. nEXT Generation of UW-Extension – Committee Discussion
  - d. Tap Into It: Responses from Green Lake County
  - e. Primary office presence of FoodWise Nutrition Educator in the Green Lake County UW-EX Office – Committee Discussion
  - f. Approval of Educator Out of County Days – Discussion/Approval
  - g. Committee Discussion
11. Future Agenda Items
12. Next Regular Meeting Date – Tuesday, April 11, 2017
13. Adjournment

Kindly arrange to be present; if unable to attend, please notify our office.  
Sincerely,

Jay Dampier  
Green Lake County UW-Extension  
Community Resource & Economic Development Educator/Department Head

*An EEO/Affirmative Action employer, University of Wisconsin-Extension provides equal opportunities  
in employment and programming, including Title IX and ADA requirements.*

*Please note: Meeting area is accessible to the physically disabled. Anyone planning to attend who needs visual or audio assistance should contact the UW-Extension Office at 294-4032 no later than Noon on the day preceding the meeting.*



The meeting of the Green Lake County Agriculture, Extension Education and Fair Committee was called to order by Chairman, Joanne Guden, at 10:00 a.m., on Tuesday, February 14, 2017 in the Training Room of the Green Lake County Government Center in Green Lake, WI. The requirements of the open meeting law were certified as being met. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Present: Joanne Guden, Chairman  
Patti Garro  
Katie Mehn  
David Richter  
Bob Schweder

Staff Present: Jay Dampier  
John de Montmollin  
Katie Gellings  
Nav Ghimire  
Amanda Miller  
Kathy Ninneman  
Kim Zills

Others Present: Harley Reabe, County Board Chairman; Cathy Schmidt, County Administrator; Clairellyn and Theodore Richard Sommersmith, Princeton Public Library; Tony Daley, Berlin Journal.

#### **AMENDED AGENDA**

***Motion/second (Garro/Richter)*** to approve the amended agenda as presented. Motion carried.

#### **MINUTES**

***Motion/second (Mehn/Schweder)*** to approve the January 10, 2017 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** – None.

**PUBLIC APPEARANCES** – None.

#### **COUNTY LIBRARY SERVICES REPORT – CLAIRELLYN SOMMERSMITH**

Submitted monthly reports on file. Sommersmith gave a brief verbal report as well.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Nothing.

#### **2017 FAIR CONTRACTS**

- Jolly Giants Stilt Walkers
- Fox of the River Voyageur Canoe Exhibit,
- Wand Enterprises – The Hypnosis Agency
- Dazzling Dave
- Uncle Ozzie's Memory Sounds
- Adventures with Ma & Pa
- DJ/KJ Entertainment with Leroy & Dala
- Hollywood Motorsports, LLC – not ready for signature/approval.

***Motion/second (Garro/Richter)*** to approve the contracts. Motion carried.

Zills is working with Corporation Counsel on the Pulvermacher contract.

#### **GREEN LAKE COUNTY FAIR PROMOTIONS COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Gellings reported there are three people that were appointed to the committee. They are in search of two more members. Their first meeting will be on Monday, February 27 at 6 p.m.

### **2017 DEMOLITION DERBY**

Zills said Winnebago County is switching back to Saturday evening show. Discussion regarding date and time to switch the show. The Committee would like to see a Saturday afternoon show. Zills will work with Hollywood to get this scheduled.

### **INFORMATIONAL HANDOUTS**

Zills gave the Committee a report of her experience at the WI Fair Convention.

### **EDUCATOR REPORT**

Jay Dampier, Community, Natural Resource and Economic Development Educator, presented to the Committee, "How Trees Built the Midwest."

### **EDUCATORS' SUMMARY OF MONTHLY REPORTS & RELEVANT TRAININGS, MEETINGS & PROGRAMS**

Written monthly reports on file for Dampier, de Montmollin, Gellings, Ghimire and Miller were reviewed. Dampier, de Montmollin, Gellings, Ghimire and Miller gave brief verbal reports of their present programming.

### **2016 COMMITTED FUNDS REQUEST**

Committed funds request from UW-Extension were presented. *Motion/second (Schweder/Richter)* to approve the Committed Funds. Motion carried.

### **nEXT GENERATION OF UW-EXTENSION**

de Montmollin handed out a document of the first six recommendations from the workgroup that came from counties.

These recommendations included:

- Maintaining an Extension Office in every county.
- Restructuring Administration.
- Connecting Counties with Regional and Statewide Resources.
- County-based Positions.
- Sharing Educational Positions.
- Establishing New Agreements.

County Board members are encouraged to provide feedback by February 23, 2017.

### **TAP INTO IT: RESPONSES FROM GREEN LAKE COUNTY**

No new stories.

### **APPROVAL OF EDUCATOR OUT OF COUNTY DAYS**

*Motion/second (Garro/Richter)*. Approved.

### **COMMITTEE DISCUSSION**

Nothing was discussed.

### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- nEXT Generation
- If anyone has an agenda item, please contact Dampier.
- Next regular meeting date: Tuesday, March 7, 2017 in the Training Room at 10:00 a.m.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion/second (Mehn/Schweder)* to adjourn at 11:22 a.m. Motion carried.

*Respectfully submitted, Kathy Ninneman, Program Specialist*

## **Green Lake County Libraries Report for March 2017**

**Berlin** - February has been a great month at the Berlin Public Library with the addition of our new Children & Teen Services Librarian, Carolyn Redington. She has already brought multitudes of new faces into the library with her enthusiasm and connections from around the community. We had over 60 attendees at our beach-themed evening Story Time on February 23! We are deep in the planning stages of our upcoming Summer Library Programs and all look forward to more programs and activities here.

Our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Quilt Show is from March 13 to March 18 and we look forward to having quilts decorating the library. We are also expanding our celebration this year by offering 3 quilting programs: Temperance Quilts with Allison Rainboth on Monday, March 13, Applique Demonstration on Thursday, March 16, and How Quilting Has Evolved in the Last Decade on Saturday, March 18.

Otherwise, we have been keeping very busy with planning all of our upcoming events and programs and enjoying the increases of patronage to our library.

**Green Lake** – Oh February, where did you go? We have been so focused on getting the lower level renovation finished that it seems a bit anticlimactic to tell you it has already been used for three movies, two programs, and an open house. Please stop by to see it when you have the chance.

We continue our Oscar-nominated movie screenings on Tuesday evenings right through the end of this month. For programs, we will add in a Thursday evening Tai Chi class, container gardening program led by Nav Ghimire, and a program on monarch butterflies. Classic games on the second and fourth Saturdays, littleBits, LEGOs, and book club continue as usual. Check out all the details on our website calendar, at [www.greenlakelibrary.org](http://www.greenlakelibrary.org)

**Kingston** – We have a new display set up, bronze animals on loan from Patsy Knight. Patsy's late husband, Keith, started this collection over 50 years ago. They loved to go to rummage & estate sales and auctions, hoping to find a treasure. Keith & Patsy would also pick the animals up when they went on vacation, so the pieces come from all over the United States. Patsy said that years ago they paid \$10 to \$15 dollars for a piece, but now the prices have gone much, much higher because of the cost of brass. The collection will be on display until mid-March. Next time you are in town stop in to see it.

**Markesan** – The Library will be having several workshop which have proved to be popular in the past. A card making workshop will be held by two accomplished card makers. Back by demand is the paper bead jewelry workshop. We will jump into the spring holiday spirit with a rope wrapped Easter Egg. We will help you get ready for summer by having a bright and spring themed painted board workshop. The cost is minimal to help cover the cost of supplies. The Annual Report is complete and submitted, always a relief, at least until next year! The book discussion group really enjoyed the February book, *All the light we cannot see*. It had been on their list for a long time but it was difficult to get that many books at one time. If you have not read it yet, you should. In March we will be discussing *The Art of Hearing Heartbeats*. This book

with a strange title is a story set in Burma between the 1950s and the present. When a successful New York lawyer suddenly disappears without a trace, neither his wife nor his daughter Julia has any idea where he might be. Julia decides to travel to her father's village. There she uncovers a tale of unimaginable hardship and resilience.

**Princeton** – The beginning of March means we can conclude with our annual reports of 2016 and look ahead to the programs and collection development of 2017. In March we will be having our regular books, our Storytime, which has doubled in size, and our monthly Friday night months. Additionally, we will be hosting a Spring Cleaning Clothing Sway the weekend of March 17th. Participants may bring or take with them gently used items of clothing for free. Adult and children clothing is accepted. We will also be capitalizing on the new crafting interest in Princeton and will be making hanging art from nails and embroider thread on Tuesday March 21.

We recently installed a door counter. It has been a treat to see our busy and slow days. On average we see around 100 people a day. I hope this number will continue to grow as the weather begins to warm.

Things are going well on the fundraising front. We are applying for grants. We raised \$1,000 during our February Paint Nite. We have our big March fundraiser, Lick the Spoon, with the Auxiliary on the 19th. This popular taste soup competition is great for both cooks and tasters. Look for our Wine Night and Brat Fry in April as well.

This report briefly describes work completed during February 2017 within the Community Natural Resources and Economic Development (CNRED) Program. During the reporting period, I made 37 direct educational / professional contacts.

## **Organizational Development and Capacity Building**

**Design Wisconsin Team planning in Princeton** Work continues on the Princeton Design Team project. Planning work is currently underway and I am facilitating the group's application and community outreach plan. Presently, the Team is soliciting letters of support for the project as well as conducting preliminary community evaluations.

**Volunteer needs assessment development** I developed a needs assessment this reporting period in order to ascertain community needs related to volunteer development. Green Lake County has a higher than the state average number of non-profit organizations and generally these organizations tend to rely heavily on volunteers. I want to determine if a need in volunteer development training exists in Green Lake County. The survey will be sent out next reporting period, and results then compiled.

**Green Lake County Economic Development Corporation** I facilitated a bylaws update session with Green Lake County Economic Development Corporation. First, I developed an online tool that allowed sub-committee members to comment and offer suggestions on each section of the bylaws, prior to the face-to-face meeting (with responses being sent directly to me). At the meeting, I lead the committee through each of the comments and discussed how to address them in an updated bylaws document. The next stage of this project includes me incorporating all the comments and meeting notes into an updated draft bylaws, along with proposed wording for a resolution that will go to county board.

## **Economic knowledge and capacity**

**City of Green Lake Economic Taskforce** I participated in a City of Green Lake Economic Taskforce meeting. The group has been meeting for months, and opened the group to other local stakeholders (including me). I attended to learn more about the group's goals, and how UW-Extension can contribute to this effort.

## **Educational Programming, Outreach and Promotion**

**Berlin Meet and Greet** The newly hired Community Development Director hosting a meeting and greet so she could get acquainted with key community stakeholders. I had an opportunity to learn about her role and the vision for the position. I also had the opportunity to have conversations with Berlin businesses owners as well as the mayor. I also shared what UW-Extension can provide, related to community development.

## **Natural Resource Stewardship**

**Arbor Day Preparation** During the reporting period, I started developing an original presentation entitled, "How trees built the Midwest." The presentation will feature five different tree species. And will cover interesting topics such as the connection between the loss of elms to Dutch elm disease and the current demise of ash trees due to emerald ash borer. Also, the presentation will cover why sugar maple is Wisconsin's state tree as well as its economic impact as a supply of syrup and high value wood. The event is being hosted by Green Lake County Land Conservation and is scheduled for April 21, 2017.

## **Professional Development**

**WEDC Connect Communities Orientation** I participated in a Connect Communities orientation held in Princeton. Topics included community design, community organization and community promotion. Since Princeton is a Connect Communities member, I was able to participate and learn free of charge because of my work with the Princeton CDA.

**Communicating Across Generations Facilitator Training** Communicating Across Generations training was designed to teach facilitators - to then teach participants - to better understand each generation's motivations, strengths and challenges, preferred communication styles, and individual needs in the workplace. Since I am already conducting work in this area, the training provided additional educational resources. I was trained and certified on the curriculum during the reporting period.

## **Newspaper articles**

- "Ash-tree-killing insect can end up costing Wisconsin communities." Berlin Journal Newspapers. February 2, 2017 by Jay Dampier

## **Out of County Days**

- 0.25 Green Lake Area Young Professionals Meeting, Ripon, WI
- 0.5 TREDC Strategic Planning Prep Meeting, Wautoma, WI
- 0.25 CNRED Area Program Planning Meeting, Montello, WI
- 0.5 ICC Meeting, Montello, WI
- 1.0 Communicating Across Generations Facilitator Training, Madison, WI

## **Planned out-of-county days for next month.**

- 0.5 Grants Workshop, Mauston, WI
- 1.0 Generations Train-the-Trainer, Green Bay, WI
- 2.0 Multi-cultural Awareness Training, Appleton, WI



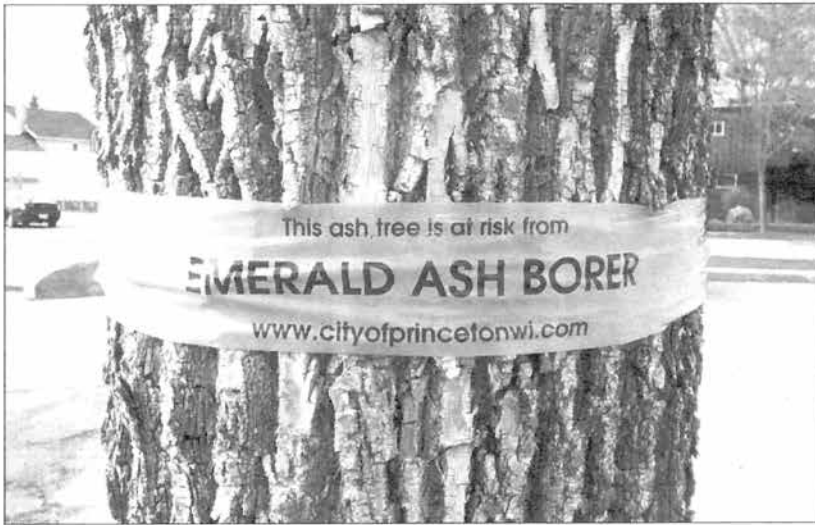


PHOTO SUBMITTED TO BERLIN JOURNAL NEWSPAPERS / IMAGE SUBMITTED TO BERLIN JOURNAL NEWSPAPERS  
**ABOVE: PHOTO OF A LOCAL EXAMPLE of emerald ash borer awareness efforts. AT RIGHT: A MAP OF QUARANTINED counties in Wisconsin as of August 31, 2016.**


## Ash-tree-killing insect can end up costing Wisconsin communities

Ash trees have been widely planted throughout many communities in Wisconsin, and there are quite a few of them in Green Lake County. Ash do well as a street tree and are often planted in community parks. However, the ash tree is at risk and is threatened by the invasive insect emerald ash borer. The borer was accidentally introduced into the United States in 2002, near Detroit, MI. A few years later in 2008, it was found in Wisconsin. Since then the borer has been slowly expanding its territory.

Although the borer has not been detected in Green Lake County, it has been found in the

following neighboring counties: Marquette, Columbia, Dodge, Fond du Lac, and Winnebago. It is likely just a matter of time before the insect makes its way into Green Lake County.


Originally from Asia, emerald ash borer can kill an ash tree (*Fraxinus* species) in as little as one to three years and has caused extensive damage throughout the USA. For example, one study looked at the economic impact of the borer throughout the USA. The price tag for the treatment, removal and replacement of more than 17 million ash trees killed by the borer was estimated to be \$10.7 billion so far.



**Jay Dampier**  
Community, Natural Resources and Economic Development Educator

**Green Lake County**

**UW Extension**



Trees killed by the borer must be taken down immediately because of the safety hazard they pose. Leaving dead standing trees is not an option where buildings, cars and people

are near. When the insect finally does arrive in Green Lake County, it will come at a high cost. Tree removal is not cheap and can cost a few hundred dollars up to thousands per tree.

The bill for dealing with dead ash trees can add up quickly. Some research findings have been done to protect ashes. Applying protective insecticides to a tree before an emerald ash borer tree infestation can be effective.

If you'd like additional information on protecting your trees, call or e-mail me and I'll send additional materials your way. Jay Dampier is an Assistant Professor and Extension Educator with University of Wisconsin-Extension for Green Lake County. He can be contacted by e-mail at [jay.dampier@ces.uwex.edu](mailto:jay.dampier@ces.uwex.edu) or by phone at (920) 294-4036.



## Contacts

Phone	E-mail	Face to Face
18	37	113

### Green Lake County 4-H Leaders' Association

Organized at the county level, the 4-H Leaders' Association works closely with the 4-H Youth Development Educator. The organization brings together volunteers to serve as a venue for volunteer leader training and an organizing mechanism in providing volunteer and financial support for county level educational opportunities for 4-H members and 4-H volunteers. I attended the Green Lake County 4-H Leaders' Association on Thursday, February 9, 2017. The meeting covered a variety of topics including the topic of the Livestock Council Board exploring the possibility of moving the auction from the Sheep and Swine Barn to the Dairy and Beef tent. Although many Leaders' Association members had opinions, the decision will be made by the Livestock Council Board of Directors.

### Super Saturday

Green Lake County 4-H Super Saturday was held on Saturday, February 25, 2017 at the Green Lake County Government Center. Super Saturday gives 4-H members the opportunity to participate in hands-on learning through sessions taught by 4-H members, 4-H leaders and community volunteers. Topics range from painting and woodworking to developing your own You Tube channel. Over 50 4-H members participated in this project-based day of learning.



### Green Lake County 4-H Ambassadors

4-H Ambassadors are a group of teen-age youth leaders who meet on a monthly basis to plan and implement educational programs and promotion events. At their meeting on February 12, 2017, I facilitated the Colors program.

The Colors Program is grounded in the personality theory of Carl Jung, and validated in the research of Myers-Briggs and Keirsey-Bates. It combines this experience-based research into an exciting approach that is extremely accurate, understandable and easy to apply in everyday life.

Through this program, people can quickly identify their own personality style and that of others. This identification is crucial in developing effective communication and building positive relationships. In addition, participants will learn how to:

- Improve interpersonal relationships
- Recognize your strengths and the strengths of others
- Build instant rapport with others
- Enhance your ability to understand how others process information
- Appreciate the viewpoint of others

Program participants have reported success in building team spirit in their organizations, enhancing their skills in conflict resolution, and developing a foundation for communication.

### **Green Lake County 4-H Horse Council Education Day**

On Saturday, February 18, 2017 I assisted in the facilitation of a state-wide horse education program held at the Green Lake County Government Center. The day featured lectures, small group work and hands-on educational activities for youth and adult participants. Over 25 youth and adults participated in the day-long event.



### **Green Lake County 4-H Volunteer Orientation**

The primary purpose of the Volunteer Orientation process is to ensure the safety and well-being of all participants. The Wisconsin 4-H Youth Development Youth Protection program process includes:

- Completion of the Volunteer Application Form
- Background records check for arrest and conviction records
- Participation in a volunteer orientation session
- Completion of the 4-H Enrollment Form

On February 8, 2017 I facilitated a Volunteer Orientation session and trained two new Green Lake County 4-H volunteers.



**DIMITRA  
BODIËN**  
Fox River Patriots



**KATHY  
MC CARTHY**  
Three Hilltoppers

## **Did you know... Can a 4-H Organization Pay a Volunteer?**

If a 4-H Organization wants to pay a volunteer beyond reimbursement for expenses, that payment may result in at least three unwanted legal consequences:

- The paid volunteer will lose protections for legal liability arising from the volunteer's conduct.
- The paid volunteer may become an employee of the 4-H Organization, and then the 4-H Organization will be legally responsible for complying with all laws and regulations regarding employer/employee relationships.
- The 4-H Organization and the paid volunteer will become responsible for complying with all tax regulations regarding the payment to the volunteer.

## **Days Outside Green Lake County**

March 8-9, 2017	Wisconsin 4-H State Meeting	Wausau
March 6,13,16,20,23,27,30, 2017	Integration Work Group Meetings	Madison

This report briefly describes the work that was completed within the Family Living Program in February of 2017. During the reporting period, the educator made 61 direct educational and professional contacts.

**Educational Programming, Networking and Outreach in the Local Community**

*Financial Literacy Workshops: Get Money Smart! – Green Lake County Correctional Facility*  
Moraine Park Technical College (MPTC) Instructor, Maureen Betz, and I co-taught the monthly financial literacy workshop at the Green Lake County Correctional Facility. The final financial literacy workshop for this “season” will be offered on March 1. We will continue the workshops again in early fall. This helps eliminate duplicate individuals taking the same workshop topics in the course of a year. February’s topic was credit and debt, in which participants learned how to get their free credit report, why checking their credit report is important, the difference between their credit report and credit score, ways to increase their credit score, and ways to repair their credit. Two females participated in the workshop. One of the participants reported having never checked her credit report prior to the workshop, so the information was of high importance and value. Other evaluation data that I collected from the workshop includes the following:

N = 2 of 2 (Females only – February 2017) Credit and Debt	% Reporting [only] 1 Unit of Change	% Reporting [at least] 2 or > Units of Change
I am confident in my ability to get a free credit report	0.0%	50.0%
I understand why regular credit report checks are important	0.0%	50.0%
I understand the factors that affect my credit score	50.0%	50.0%
I understand the ways to increase my credit score	0.0%	50.0%
I understand the ways to repair my credit	50.0%	50.0%

*Healthy Habits – Boys & Girls Club of the Tri-County Area*

The weekly Healthy Habits program continued through the month of February at the Boys & Girls Club of the Tri-County Area in Berlin. This program is taught through a partnership with FoodWise and will run until mid-March. There are 12-18 children who participate

from session-to-session. FoodWise provides a 30-minute nutrition lesson, while I provide a 30-minute cooking/meal preparation lesson. The children get to chop fruits and vegetables, and make/cook their own snack each week, with guidance. They are learning important skills that some of them will use as they cook their own dinners already. My lessons in February focused on



safety skills when cutting food with a sharp knife, the protein food group, and the grain food group.

### *Individual Financial Budgeting Session – Berlin Senior Village*

In the month of February, I held two budgeting lessons with an individual who was referred to me by the Green Lake County Aging and Long Term Care unit. The sessions were held at the Berlin Senior Village. We focused on developing financial goals using the SMART (specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, time-bound) method, creating a spending plan, and tracking spending. After two sessions, the individual felt that she was confident enough to manage her money without more lessons. I anticipate a follow-up call in early summer to see how everything is going.



### **Networking within UW Extension and Professional Development Opportunities**

I made 31 contacts within the UW Extension system during the month of February. I continue to have a number of professional meetings scheduled with colleagues and mentors to continue to network and learn from my fellow Extension educators.

### *Creating Aging-Friendly Communities Workgroup Meeting - Appleton*

At the end of February, the Creating Aging-Friendly Communities workgroup, which is under the Healthy Living State Team, met at the Outagamie UW Extension Office for an all-day face-to-face meeting. We finalized the Creating Aging-Friendly Communities toolkit, which educators can utilize within aging communities of their county. I anticipate using portions of the toolkit in Green Lake County. We also focused on our 2017 plan of work, and discussed new projects surrounding the aging population.

### **Newspaper Articles**

“Dollars During Development: Raising Money Smart Kids” Berlin Journal Newspapers. February 6, 2017. By Katie Gellings, Family Living Educator

### **Out of County Days**

- 2 ½ Out of county days for February (WEAFCS Award Application Meeting in Oshkosh – ½; Creating Aging Friendly Communities Meeting in Appleton – 1\*; Mentor Meeting in Oshkosh – 1)
- 2 Out of county days scheduled for March (Fulfilling the Promise Conference – Presentation on Dollars During Development project in Wisconsin Dells – 1; North Central Regional Conference in Wisconsin Rapids – 1)

\* Travel expenses are covered by UW Extension

**Nav Ghimire, Green Lake County, Agriculture Agent, February 2017.**

### **Educational Contacts**

In the month of February, I made 44 educational contacts with extension clients. Of the total contacts, face-to-face contacts were 37 (meetings, walk-in, farm visits). Remaining contacts were phone calls, emails, and mailings. Of the total contacts, females were 7. The main areas of concern during that period were nutrient management training, SNAP-Plus training, lawn and garden, and home horticulture.

### **Tri-County Produce Auction**

Growers have started to put together the green house flower production system. The production practices growers have started are calibrating the system, maintaining heat, changing plastics, putting soils, and fertilizer needed for the nursery plants. Recently Tri-County Produce Auction Coop also organized a growers meeting in which they invited an Amish leader speaker from Ohio. The auction for 2017 begins on April.

### **Pesticide Application Training**

The second pesticide application training was conducted in February in which 7 farmers participated. The training started with two-hour video teaching followed by a certification exam. The tests were sent to the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture Trade and Consumer Protection for grading.



Fig: Participants attending the pesticide certification exam followed by a video training.

### **Nutrient Management Training**

The 2-part nutrient management training was conducted in February in which 18 people participated. Some farmers participated with their family members. The training was offered in the following topics: state and federal policies in nutrient management, nitrogen, phosphorous, and potash management, nitrogen crediting, soil and plant biology, manure management, and Sulphur management. Jamie Patton Shawano County Ag Agent, Jordan Paris (a local farmers), Nav Ghimire were the instructors for the training.



Fig 2: Farmers attending the nutrient management training.

**Out of County Days**

March 14-15 – North-Central Region UW-Extension Conference - Wisconsin Rapids.

March 20-23 – Journal of Extension Board Meeting – Austin, TX

Planned Out of County Days = 5 days