



**Douglas County
Extension Education &
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AUGUST 2017



*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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Family Living



Araceli Whitwam-Sell
Family Living Educator

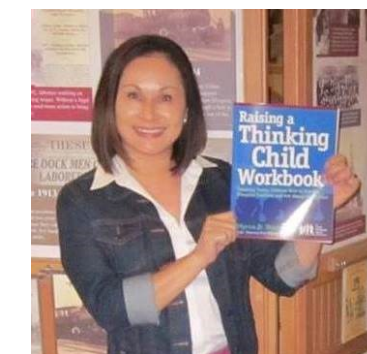
A Fond Farewell to Araceli from UW-Extension,
In April of 2015 Araceli Whitwam-Sell joined UW-Extension as the new Family Living Educator in Douglas County. Araceli had just recently completed her Master of Social Work at University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, MI. Araceli relocated from Eau Claire to Superior to join UW-Extension.

During Araceli's two-years in Douglas County, she brought an unparalleled energy and enthusiasm to our office and the community. Araceli viewing community needs through her experience and areas of interest found new programming and partnering opportunities for the City of Superior and Douglas County. Araceli brought new programming to the community, which included: Raising A Thinking Child, mindfulness education, programming to incarcerated persons in the Douglas County Jail to help their transition after release, and what turned out to be a popular and signature program... Tucker the Turtle.

While UW-Extension is losing Araceli, fortunately for the community she is not going far. Araceli will be joining Douglas County Health and Human Services, where she will bring her passion for strengthening families and relationships. The entire UW-Extension Douglas County team wishes Araceli well in her new position, and thanks her for her energy and passion that she brought to the UW-Extension team.

Best Wishes Araceli!

Your friends and co-workers at UW-Extension
Douglas County



Upcoming Events

4-H Inventgenuity/LittleBits Head of Lakes Fair Jr. 4-H Camp	June 12-16 July 11-16 July 28-30
FoodWise Summer School visits Superior Housing Authority Gardening Transitional Housing Early Head Start Food Pantry	June-August May-June June/July June/July June-August
CNRED Social Media Workshop Workforce Issues Roundtable	June 7 June 14
Agriculture/Horticulture Superior Housing Authority Gardening	May-June

Community and Economic Development

UW-Extension, Bringing Evidence Based Strategies Locally and Abroad

In May, I experienced my first international volunteer opportunity, something that many of my fellow UW-Extension educators have done when they can link the volunteer work to their academic work. While I have traveled extensively on my own, this was the first time I volunteered on a trip. This opportunity was presented by USAID grant recipient Winrock International through the Farmer-to-Farmer Program.

I traveled to Bangladesh in May for 18-days, where I worked with the Department of Youth Development, part of the Ministry of Youth and Sports. The project I was assigned was to work with this department to conduct a needs assessment of current technical training, and to propose a curriculum for entrepreneurship training.

In my first week in Bangladesh, my hosts took me to Youth Training Centers in Dhaka, Jessore, Rangpur, and Khulna. During these stops we visited technical training centers operated by the Ministry, where training in agriculture and agribusiness, fabrics production, modern office systems, air conditioning repair, and other technical fields is offered. Unfortunately, the Bengali economy cannot keep up with the 160+ million population in the area of job creation. The Department of Youth Development is placing an increasing emphasis on self-employment and entrepreneurship as an alternative to employment.

In addition to the training centers, we also visited entrepreneurs at each location that received technical training and then started a business.

Some of these entrepreneurs started their businesses with family property and money, others accessed Department of Youth Development loans, repayable within 24-months for amounts up to 50,000 Bengali Taka (or about \$620). These entrepreneurs started farms (dairy, goat, and/or chickens), aquaculture farms where they fish farm (tilapia, prawn, carp, and/or catfish), and fabrics & handicraft businesses. Some of these businesses are operated only by family members, others are contributing jobs to the Bangladesh economy,

Following these visits, I completed a proposed 2-week / 80-hour entrepreneurship training curriculum. I presented an overview of this curriculum to Anwarul Karim, Director General, Department of Youth Development, Ministry of Youth & Sports; and his senior



James with Anwarul Karim, Director General, Department of Youth Development, Ministry of Youth & Sports.

leadership team of youth trainers and educators. Following feedback from the Director General and staff, I made necessary revisions that met their needs. I then conducted a two-day seminar to 14 senior trainers of the



James with some of the Department of Youth Development senior trainers.



James Anderson
CNRED

department, where I trained them on how to deliver the curriculum and make additional changes to meet their local needs.

As I wrap-up the logistics of the trip, I am already looking forward. While my work in Bangladesh is complete, Winrock International through USAID will work with the Department of Youth Development to translate my curriculum to Bengali, so the training can be provided to youth across Bangladesh at the local district Youth Training Centers. Winrock International will also bring in one or two additional volunteers over the next 18-months to help the Department of Youth Development to refine their entrepreneurship training efforts.

This was an incredible opportunity to share my experience working with entrepreneurs. All good experiences provide an opportunity to share and to learn. This trip provided me with many opportunities to learn about the Bengali culture... a trip I will not forget. Now that I am back, I am hoping to take some of my work, and use it locally to provide entrepreneurship education to individuals and groups that may not be currently served by resources from the Small Business Development Center and other entrepreneur training and technical assistance programs.

आदर के साथ (Best Regards),
James



Sharon Krause
4-H & Youth
Development Educator

4-H Youth Development

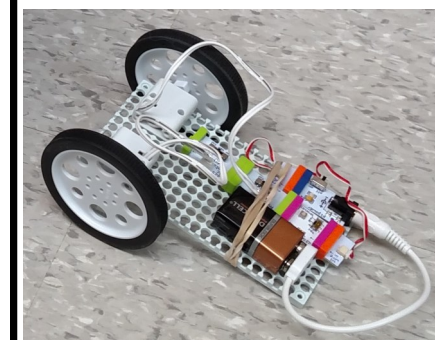
together in thousands of combinations. Some circuits control other pieces with switches or sensors, while others perform tasks. Creations can be whimsical - a lobster that's afraid of the dark! Or practical, such a tool for a handicapped person.



The Summer of 2017 is officially underway! Due to the Head of the Lakes Fair date change - it's in mid-July rather than the end of August - this year's slate of activities is heavily concentrated in June and July, so we're starting off with a bang!

Inventgeniuty Camp, June 12 - 16: A week of hands-on fun is in store for 9 - 11 year olds during the mornings of June 12 - 16. Campers will build, experiment, and build some more! Activities include making magnetic slime and creating roller coasters for marbles. Last year's camp was a huge success and we're looking forward to seeing this year's crop of innovations!

LittleBits Camp, June 12 - 16: While Inventgeniuty Camp focuses mostly on STEM activities (Science,



Technology, Engineering and Math), LittleBits Camp is STEAM based, which means it includes Art. Youth coming to this camp will spend their afternoons getting creative! LittleBits are magnetic circuits which stick

4-H State Youth Conference, June 19 - 22:

The annual 4-H Youth Conference in Madison is an awesome opportunity for members to see the wide array of projects 4-H offers. Youth can try kayaking, make an art project, build a robot, try out for the drama team, attend an educational seminar, etc. This year I will be teaching a seminar which will help youth connect their 4-H experiences to the workforce and also show them how to communicate these connections on a resume.

United Way Day of Caring, June 21: United Way is a major partner of Douglas County 4-H, and this is a day of volunteerism. We have signed up to help improve the county fairgrounds from 10:00 - 3:30. If you can wield a paintbrush or are comfortable doing small repairs, please come join us! Contact our office or sign up on the Head of the Lakes United Way website. Groups welcome!



Head of the Lakes Fair, July 11 - 16: Our county fair is much earlier this year! The Head of the Lakes Fair management team and local volunteers are working hard to improve the grounds and the fair experience in general. Come check it out! **Friday July 14th is free** admission for families who come in the morning.

Junior Camp, July 28 - 30: This year's summer camp will be held at Leisure Lake Youth Camp. The theme is Mad Science. Possible activities include



volcanoes on the beach and cardboard boats campers build and race in! For ages 8 - 13.

Mighty Machines, August 10: 4-H volunteers will once again provide fun activities at this community event at Superior Middle School from 4:00 - 7:00 pm. Food will be provided in the school cafeteria.





Agriculture & Horticulture

Jane Anklam
Agriculture/
Horticulture Educator



Agriculture

What are our farmers doing in Douglas County to raise the bar for Sustainable Agriculture? Here are some examples that I have noticed this season so far to shine a light on environmentally, economically, and socially sound management practices:



•Development of a new milking parlor expansion to result in comfort and better traffic flow for their dairy cows. (Proper handling/housing of dairy cattle decreases stress and disease)

- Researching cereal oat varieties recommended by University agronomists and planting on farm variety trials to evaluate for local growing conditions. (Growing the best variety for your soil condition and climate will result in higher yields and less disease)
- Sampling soils on very old hay fields and following University soil test recommendations *before* planting alfalfa hay. (Setting up a soil test rotation saves money on un-necessary fertilizers and protects against phosphorus build up in the watershed.)
- Engaging in a pasture management study to compare sulfur and boron needs of the soil in an organic forage system. (Growing excellent forage for organic pasture cuts costs in both veterinarian bills and supplementing with harvested forage)
- Implementing Beef Quality Assurance Management practices to manage grazing for soil health and healthy rate of gain. (Rotational grazing plans that included “right sized paddocks” result in a higher rate of gain, less disease, and quality meat)

Local Foods

We are challenging gardeners and photographers alike to notice and snap photos of how our community grows its own food. Front yard gardens, containers full of tomatoes

and strawberries, raised beds at local businesses are all part of the growing examples of our ability to feed ourselves locally in Douglas County. Please send your photos to jane.anklam@ces.uwex.edu. We will post on the UW Extension and Douglas County Website. Notice too that the local farmers markets and community supported agriculture offerings are available. Again this year, local market gardeners are participating in “Seed to Table” a UW-Extension research grant growing tasty local vegetable varieties meant for our palette and growing conditions.

Horticulture

Did you know that many of our garden insect pests and diseases do not over winter here, but are blown in on the prevailing winds? University entomologists watch the weather patterns and use predictive models to determine if certain leaf hoppers and mildews will impact us in the northland year to year. With this knowledge, we can fine tune our pest monitoring to see if we can expect injury or not. This can help us cut back or avoid all together the use of pesticides.



Please contact Jane Anklam, Horticulture Educator, if you want to learn about the risk of a particular pest coming to your garden.

Spring Shopping Tour Highlights

Families on a tight budget report that the cost of healthy groceries is their biggest barrier to making healthy meals at home. Food skills, like smart shopping, can help overcome that barrier.



FoodWise offers Shopping Matters, a free grocery store tour to

empower families to stretch their food budgets so their children get healthy meals at home. Additionally, our focus is on reaching parents with kids ages 5 and under and adults or students in transition who belong to low-income families and make a majority of the food purchasing decisions in their household. Tarah Nichols and Julie Montgomery led a grocery tour in May which included parents whose children are enrolled in WIC, Head Start and Northern Lights Elementary School. The group represented parents of twelve or more children. As a result,

75% of the participants stated they would try comparing unit prices, reading ingredients lists to find whole grains and comparing food labels on their next shopping trip. Parents reported they are very confident in using their WIC fruit and vegetable vouchers and identifying WIC foods at the grocery store. When asked what new ideas they learned for saving money or buying healthier food parents learned: “unit pricing,” “to read the ingredients on food labels,” “how to choose ripe fruit,” “canned does not necessarily mean low quality and can be a healthy choice,” “to look for whole grain ingredients (even in bread)” and “how to buy meat.” No child should grow up hungry in America, but one in five children



struggles with hunger. UW-Extension FoodWise and The No Kid Hungry campaign Shopping Matters grocery

FoodWise

tour connects kids in need with nutritious food and teaches their families how to cook healthy, affordable meals.



Julie Montgomery
FoodWise Coordinator

Information adapted from cookingmatters.org



Tarah Nichols
Nutrition Program Educator

On May 10th, I had the opportunity to visit Four Corner’s Elementary School



to teach students a nutrition lesson based on MyPlate. We talked about ways to increase fruit and vegetable intake and most agreed that choosing these at hot lunch helped get the daily requirements needed. With the younger students, we also read a book about fruits and vegetables and played fruit and vegetable bingo. The 4th and 5th grade students learned how to read food labels and the importance of looking at ingredient lists. Each of the 4th and 5th grade students was given a food label and had to find certain nutrients on the list. They then had to rate the food based on the facts they had just learned, not on how well they liked the food. Many were surprised to see some of their favorite foods not as healthful as they thought.

All students were offered a vegetable sample to taste.

