

**QUARTERLY NARRATIVE****April – June 2018****Crystal Schaunaman - Agriculture****Vacant – Family & Community Wellness****AGRICULTURE, YOUTH, HORTICULTURE & GENERAL EXTENSION**

By: Crystal Schaunaman

**Agriculture**General

General agriculture related questions: water sampling; pesticide recommendations; information on corn planting population, row spacing and seeding rates; troubleshoot pesticide problems on soybeans; how to document and handle pesticide drift; tested several commercial and private applicators; custom farm work rates; websoil survey rating reports; weed identification; provided crop, organic and livestock budgets to several producers; helped growers locate new variety information; helped troubleshoot livestock issues; helped promote the county chemical cost share program; and provided pesticide recordkeeping forms. I also provided information on moisture conditions in the county as well as severe weather reporting to FSA. The 2018 Plot tour is being planned for July 18. I submitted a request from the ND Soybean Council to fund the meal for this event.

I contributed weekly to the grazing readiness survey that NDSU conducted throughout the state by taking weekly pictures of four different grass species at two different producer locations within the county. I was able to connect ten producers with a research student conducting a pollinator survey. Several producers received annual forage options for their specific soils and needs. I continue to act as liaison between our local seed increase growers and the state Foundation seed office as well as by advertising seed for sale to local producers. I was also able to help prevent a livestock producer from applying the wrong pesticide to treat buckbrush as he had been improperly directed by another individual.

McIntosh County Ag Improvement Association

Cordell and Kerry Bettenhausen and families were selected for the 2018 Harvest Bowl award. They are tremendous supporters of agriculture in the community as they have served on local FSA and Ag Improvement boards for many years.

The board once again awarded scholarships to McIntosh County youth. This year because of the increased number of quality applications, the board decided to increase the awards from one \$500 scholarship to several awards. Chase Bader received \$500 while Cassidy Walth and Dylan Wolff each received \$250. Youth had to describe how they planned to use a degree to better small communities.

**4-H & Youth Development**Tri-County Fair Preparation

During this period I helped at many of the work nights at the fairgrounds preparing for the fair by setting up rides and other projects. The Tri-County Fair will be July 12-15. Other preparation work included soliciting sponsors, personally communicating with large sponsors, helping 4-H youth learn how to approach and request 4-H premium sale buyers (a change made by the 4-H council for this year), writing news releases for the paper, getting volunteers for various projects, and working with open show and 4-H families to sign up their projects. Biosecurity for horse show participants was sent and will be highly encouraged along with required signed waivers for this year's fair due to the increased concern of Equine EHV (Equine Herpes Virus). Our office was once again in charge of updating the Tri-Co Fair poster and made changes to the [www.tricofair.com](http://www.tricofair.com) website along with updating the NDSU Extension and 4-H websites and Facebook pages.

Showmanship and YQCA Clinic

A rabbit and livestock showmanship clinic along with Youth Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) training was held in Wishek, ND on June 5. Fifteen youth along with several interested parents attended the event. Extension livestock specialists Janna Kincheloe and Travis Hoffman along with Extension agents Crystal Schaunaman, Penny Nester and Sheldon Gerhardt taught the youth about large livestock feeding, fitting and showmanship techniques. The day concluded with YQCA training which is now a requirement for 4-H youth to show livestock at the North Dakota State Fair. McIntosh County Farm Bureau sponsored the event.



## Communication Arts

The 4-H District Communications Arts Contest was held in Mandan on May 29. Four youth competed. I drove youth and also judged one of the competition categories.



## **Horticulture & Community**

### Horticulture Questions and Workshops

Many clients stopped in, called, or emailed horticulture related questions. I made several site visits to help answer those questions that needed to be seen in person. Questions included tree planting, identifying weeds, raspberry and other fruit questions, various garden questions, troubleshooting tree problems (most of which have to do with rock mulch and improperly planting trees), identify leaf disease/insect problems, garden fertilizer recommendations, and one whole yard species and problem identification visit. Perhaps the most satisfying client visit I was able to make was helping identify a problem which had been improperly identified by others in the area the previous year. They called this year as a last resort after remembering the Extension office could help with these issues as well. With access to high quality, research based information I was able to track down the actual problem and recommend a solution to save several miles of new trees.

### Community Activities

#### **General**

I continue to attend monthly JDA and Chamber of Commerce events. Based on feedback from these two groups I worked to coordinate a "Welcome to our Town" program for local businesses. In the end there was not enough interest but perhaps in the fall the effort will be renewed. Plans are also in progress to host a 'QuickBooks' training in the community based on requests for this program.

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## **Babysitting Clinic**

Thirty-three area youth were certified in CPR and First Aid after completing babysitting classes recently in Wishek and Ashley. The course taught skills to promote safe and responsible care for infants and children, as well as how to manage a babysitting business.

Crystal Schaunaman, NDSU - McIntosh County Extension facilitated the course which was taught by Jessica Welder and Cheryl Schilling from the McIntosh District Health Unit, Eric Heupel and Angela Bertsch from the Ashley Ambulance Service and Felicia Huber Sampson from the Wishek Ambulance Service. The course was sponsored by Ashley Ambulance and Wishek Community Hospital.



### April - June, 2018 Meetings Attended/Held

#### **April**

4-Annie's Project

5-Commercial test

9-DYSP team meeting

10-Rural Resources, Strasburg

21-Ashley Chamber of Commerce

18-Agronomy In-Service, Jamestown

19-Finding the Bright Spots Extension meeting, Linton

25-Babysitting course planning meeting, Ashley

25-4-H Council meeting, Wishek

26-Farm Stress planning meeting

#### **May**

7-Personal & Family Finance Team meeting, skype

7-Fairgrounds work night

9-10-4-H Camp clean up, Washburn

9-Ag Improvement board meeting, Ashley

11-Tri-County Tourism Alliance meeting, Ashley

17-JDA meeting, Ashley

18-Annie's Project conference call

21-Fairboard meeting, Wishek

29-Communication Arts, Mandan

30-Central District Extension meeting, Harvey

31-Babysitting course, Wishek

#### **June**

4-Babysitting course, Ashley

4-Fairgrounds work night

5-4-H Showmanship and YQCA workshop, Wishek

11-Fairgrounds work night

12-Livestock Camp, Washburn

13-4-H Council meeting, Ashley

14-Ashley Chamber of Commerce meeting

15-Ag News Annie's Project interview

19-Tri-County Fair Association appreciation supper, Wishek

18-Fairgrounds work night, Wishek

19-Tri-County Fair Association appreciation supper, Wishek

27-Ag Agent Field Tour, Oakes

28-Judge Logan County 4-H projects, Napoleon