Natural Resource Management

- Café Talk – Attended and participated in the café talk held on January 8 in Lidgerwood. There was 20 producers present with great discussion on soil health practices.

Farm Business Management

- Southeast Crop Market Update – January 4 at Coteau des Praries Lodge. 25 producers attended the meeting from Ransom, Richland, and Sargent Counties. Attendees got updates about on the farm financial situation, marketing tools and strategies, crop marketing outlook, farm stress management, and learned how to use the crop compare and crop budgeting tools from NDSU. I taught the participants about the budgeting spreadsheet tool available.

4-H Youth Development

- Crop Judging – Practices began on January 8, with 4 Sargent County 4-H youth participating in 2019. Brianna McLaen volunteered as coach for remainder of the season. The team finished the season by winning first place at the State 4-H Crop Judging contest!

Upcoming Events:

- Gardening workshop – May 15
- Youth for the Quality Care of Animals – June
Cindy Klapperich
Family and Community Wellness
2019 Q1 (January-March)

My work as an educator empowers Sargent county citizens to improve their lives and communities through science-based education. My position is part-time (.80 FTE).

Leadership and Civic Engagement
- Led mentor training for adult volunteers in Sargent County True Direction Mentoring program (January 23)
- In response to the issues of “public disconnect with agriculture” and “viability of rural communities,” that were identified in community forums, I planned and conducted a National Ag Day event in Sargent county by working with North Sargent Public School administration and teachers Tanner Zetocha (Ag Education) and Kylie Christianson (Family and Consumer Science) and their students, eight local/area ag businesses, two adult volunteers, and a variety of commodity groups, organizations, and other businesses who provided financial sponsorship. The theme was “Saluting Farmers, Ranchers and Ag Businesses,” and the event was held at North Sargent School in Gwinner on March 21. It was a great success: very well attended, and very well received by the community. (Pictures at right)

4-H Youth Development
- Working with colleagues to develop 4-H Onboarding resources through 4-H Innovate project
- Supported the work of adult volunteers working with youth in 4-H Hippology and 4-H Crops Judging (scheduling, event registration, and follow-up news releases and social media posts)

Nutrition, Food Safety and Health Education
- Led adult education program (“Think Your Drink”) with parents of HeadStart students; focused on reading and using nutrition facts labels and ingredient labels
- A series of six nutrition education lessons for fourth grade students (On the Move to Stronger Bodies) was launched in both Milnor and Sargent Central Public Schools; trained volunteers Phyllis Wyum and Katie McLaen are presenting the lessons
- Launched two series of five nutrition education lessons (On the Move to Better Health) with sixth grade students and fifth grade students in Milnor Public Schools; using new delivery method that involves co-teaching with a classroom teacher

Human Development/ Family Science Education
- Led literacy-based and activity-enhanced character education with HeadStart students each month. The character trait themes this quarter were helpfulness and teamwork, dependability, and being considerate and thoughtful. (Photos at left)

Meetings with Community Groups
- Sargent County Food Pantry
- Healthy Sargent County Coalition
- Sargent County Fair Board

Administrative
- Moved the Sargent County office of NDSU Extension to 8991 Hwy 32 in Forman to accommodate other county offices/departments that needed space in the Courthouse

Professional Development
- Completed seven-week online course: “Achieving the Extension Mission Through Volunteers”
- Annual performance appraisal with District Director Kim Ruliffson and county commissioners Richard Ruch and Bill Anderson
- On-going training for FairEntry computer program for 4-H

Upcoming Programs and Activities for Q2 (April-June)
- Nutrition/Wellness education in grade 4, 5, and 6 classrooms Milnor, North Sargent, and Sargent Central schools
- Scams and Fraud education for adults (co-teaching in 4 locations with Tanner Tougas, Sargent County Sheriff’s Department,)
- NDPERS employee wellness education at courthouse: Sun Safety (May 9) and Sleep Matters (May 23)
- Entrepreneurship Conference (attend/participate only; May 7-8)
- Babysitting Clinic (June 3)
- 4-H Consumer Decision Making Contest (June 18)
- Begin preparations for Sargent County Fair to be held in July