

Logan County

April-June 2025 Quarterly Narrative

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Dustin Hammond
Family & Community
Wellness Agent



Josh Becker
Agriculture and Natural
Resources Agent

Ag and Natural Resources: Issues and Education

- Harvest Bowl representative for Logan County chosen by Livestock & Grain Association--**Randy & Coleen Piatz**
- Extension Advisory Council initiated--First meeting slated for Oct-Nov 2025. ~20 Logan County stakeholders agreed to participate and will advise Extension office on programs and direction.
- Logan County Weed Board Spring Cost share program
 - 13 applications received--~\$5500 cost shared for weed control

Numerous calls for weed issues and potential tree diseases due to unusual seasonal weather patterns.

Agent Training Highlights

Lead Local: a one-day training course, was attended by Josh and Dustin on April 15th. This program is designed to help participants prepare to serve as effective board, council, or committee members. It aims to recognize the components of an effective meeting, learn basic parliamentary procedure and how to apply it, understand different personality styles and how they can work together effectively, and utilize effective tools when dealing with conflict. They hope to offer it in their communities as a leadership and civic engagement course to the public.

Project Learning Tree: Environmental and natural resource curriculum for school-age children. Example learning modules: *Forestry basics, water resource management, tree id, natural resource career opportunities, renewable energy*. Will be offered in Napoleon & Gackle schools this fall.

Range Science In-Service (NDSU CGREC-Streeter): Range plant ID, Stocking rate calculations, water quality testing training, forage mold research project for SC ND counties (Logan will participate)

Early Career Award

Dustin was awarded the Early Career Award by the North Dakota Upsilon Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi to receive the 2025 Early-Career Leadership Award. The mission of Epsilon Sigma Phi is to foster standards of excellence in the Extension System and to develop the Extension profession and professional.



4-H Activities:

Logan County 4-H Clubs have 74 registered members divided into two large clubs and two extracurricular activities (Archery & Livestock Judging)

Archery: Archery practices are ongoing throughout the summer. Over 20 youth regularly attend the practices and show improvement every session. A local competition will take place over the Tri-County Fair in Wishek.

Logan County 4-H Achievement Days: June 25-26 @ the American Legion building

Event Highlights:

- **334** registered exhibits this year
- **110** of which were from our youngest members, Cloverbuds.
- **41** exhibitors. 25 4-H members and 16 Cloverbud members participated this year.
- Highest exhibit count in recent memory.
- ~20 local businesses donated over \$2500 that will be used for project premium payouts
- \$120 raised from free will donations at the community program
- ~75 people attended the recognition and awards program at the American Legion

Project categories include: 4-H Project Expo, Agronomy, Baking & Cooking, Child Development and Child Care, Communication Arts, Environmental Stewardship, Food Preservation, Goats Meats and Fiber, General Sciences & Math, Horticulture, Industrial Technology, Outdoor Education, Physical Health, Poultry, Eggs, Sewing & Textiles, Shooting Sports, Visual Arts, and Cloverbud.



Beans and More

This year's Spring FCW training focused on increasing the consumption of beans and pulses throughout the state. Through a generous grant from the Northarvest Bean Growers Association (NBGA), Family and Community Wellness Agents met in Jamestown, ND, on May 13th and 14th to discuss ways to incorporate beans and lentils into many of our recipes/food we already enjoy. The addition of these adds protein and other nutrients without changing the taste or textures of the foods. The highlights of the recipes we tested were black bean brownies and white bean muffins.

Farm & Ranch Safety Camp



Tractor driving instructor--Josh

June 2025--Josh was a core team instructor at the EAST Farm Safety Camp in Fargo. 16 students from across eastern and central North Dakota participated in this year's camp. The low number of students allows for customized and intense farm safety instruction from NDSU Extension Agents and other volunteers. Students spend 3 days learning about many aspects of farm and ranch safety and have the opportunity to earn a certified farm worker designation. This allows them to legally work on a farm once they reach a certain age. In addition to the designation, the camp curriculum offers a broad range of safety topics to bring awareness and understanding to this sometimes very unforgiving line of work.

Safety topics included:

- Tractor driving and maneuvering
- Skid Steer operations
- Grain bin safety
- ATV safety certification
- Basic First Aid
- Animal handling
- Animal disease ID
- Semi truck awareness
- And many others...

Josh developed and taught a course on Semi truck safety called: **NO ZONE--Blind spot awareness**. All 16 camp participants rotated through and received instruction on semi truck blind spot awareness and pre/post trip inspections. All students had the opportunity to sit in an actual semi and trailer to see first hand how difficult it is to see certain areas when operating a semi. All students performed their own pre/post trip inspections and learned what to look for before operating a semi. Plans are in development to bring a similar farm safety program to Logan County in the future.

Personal Finance Education

April is Personal Finance Month, and as part of the celebration, Dustin hosted a Piggy Bank Pageant at area banks in Logan and McIntosh Counties. Every 1st grade class in Napoleon, Gackle, Wishek, Ashley, and Zeeland participated in the program. The students learned about the importance of setting goals, saving for future expenses, and how banks function. They also had to make some tough decisions, and choose between a bear, a brontosaurus, a bunny, or a piggy bank.

Josh Becker

(Meetings, Professional Development and Other Activities)

- Napoleon Ambulance Board Secretary
- Logan Co Soil Conservation District representative
- Logan Co Weed Board representative
- Napoleon Homestead information column
- Youth football officiating volunteer
- Extension Civic Engagement Team member
- Extension Natural Resource Team member
- Logan Co Irrigation District formation committee

Dustin Hammond

(Meetings, Professional Development and Other Activities)

- Tri-County Tourism Alliance Meetings
- Napoleon Volunteer Fireman
- Napoleon Ambulance Board VP
- Logan County Historical Society (Sec/Treas)
- Napoleon Wildlife Club member
- Napoleon Business Association Meetings
- *At the Table* posts in Logan and McIntosh County Schools
- Weekly Column in *The Napoleon Homestead*, *Tri-County News (Gackle)*, *Ashley Tribune*, and *Wishek Star*
- Former President of the NDACO County Superintendents Association
- Annie's Project Facilitator
- Aging Mastery Program Pilot Committee

ND Cancer Coalition meeting

On June 24th, the ND Cancer Coalition gathered at the ND Heritage Center for our annual meeting. Through support of corporate sponsors, they were able to expand the scope of the organization. For example, an additional feature this year was the inclusion of fair showcasing various cancer treatments available in North Dakota. Over the past year, Dustin's role has expanded as a new member of the fundraising committee and he continues to be an Extension advocate for the Coalition within our local communities and health organizations.

Upcoming Events

Fall Conference, Fargo September 28th-30th
Tri County Plot Tour demonstration July 29 (Wishek)
Black Hills Recreational Leadership Laboratory (Dustin)

