

Logan County

July-September 2025 Quarterly Narrative

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Ag and Natural Resources: Issues and Education

Tri County Plot Tour—July 2025: Annual demonstration/research tour showcasing a wide range of crop varieties and production variables. (Herbicides, row spacing, intercropping). Approximately thirty Tri County producers attended this year's event.

Hay (forage) mold sampling: Our office assisted the NDSU Extension Central Grasslands Research Center (Streeter) with a hay mold study. They are collecting samples of hay from our region to better understand the types of mold present in our forages and hope to offer forage production guidance based on the research. Our office submitted over 20 hay samples from Logan County. Results pending.

National Sunflower Survey Sampling: A bi-annual survey of area sunflower fields for yield and production practices, weeds, insects, disease, and bird damage. 13 fields were surveyed in the Tri-County area with results submitted to NDSU Plant Science for tabulation and reporting. Results pending.

Spotted Water Hemlock awareness

Spotted Water Hemlock—a native noxious weed showed up in many parts of Logan County this year. It thrives in unusually wet conditions and grows best in shallow standing water areas. The plant contains a toxin called *cicutoxin* and can be deadly to livestock if eaten. Humans should exercise caution when handling as well. The plant was widespread in ND this year and caught the attention of several Extension Agents and Extension at large. Our office provided a press release on awareness in the Napoleon Homestead and offered in person guidance at a number of programs held this summer.





4-H Activities:

Club information: We, once again, have two chartered 4-H clubs this year.

The Little 4-H Club on the Prairie & The Napoleon Dynamites

Projected enrollment for both clubs: 50-75 members (Enrollment open now)

Upcoming winter 4-H Activities: **Archery, Livestock Judging, Advanced Skills Group**

End of Year Banquet (Sep. 7th) Golden Age Hall

This year we decided to celebrate the year's achievements with a recognition luncheon and awards banquet. Over 60 parents and 4-H kids joined together over a hot meal to recognize and encourage each other for their efforts.

4-H'er's of all ages took turns calling bingo from the nostalgic bingo machine at the Hall. Other games and prizes were abundant.

3 Livestock Judgers were recognized for their achievements and received customized plaques.

Hudson Berger: Top Judger

Hailey Kleppe: Creative Excellence

Taryn Erbele: Rookie of the Year



The Bounty was great and all were filled.

Bingo and games at Golden Age Hall



Summer Archery Practices

Napoleon wildlife Club



Disaster Table Top Exercise (Josh)—State Capitol

NDSU Extension, County Emergency Managers, and Disaster Responders joined together for a day of disaster incident professional development. Personnel from each group were paired together to discuss a fictional disaster scenario and come up with action plans for various stages of the disaster. This was a full day of scenario based discussions and learning objectives with facilitators from Montana State University, Texas A&M, and the National Extension Disaster Education Network (EDEN). Training objectives included: Mitigation, response, and recovery process/Roles and responsibilities of county, state, federal officials/Roles of Extension/Public Health concerns/Community planning

Black Hills Recreational Leaders laboratory (Dustin)

Dustin participated in the 79th annual Black Hills Recreation Leaders Laboratory at the Outlaw Ranch, located near Custer, SD. Over the course of a week, the primary focus was on building character within groups, a skill greatly needed among the youth of our communities. In addition, collaborating with adults in our communities to form more effective volunteer groups to complete activities was a focus. Each of us brings different skills to a group, and each person has a different method of completing tasks. How do we work better with those who lead from the heart, and not from the mind? Should there be a focus on the progress and process, or just on the results? These and countless other topics were discussed and developed over the week.

Rural on the Rise—Community leadership seminar (Dustin & Josh)

The North Dakota Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives coordinated a vital learning opportunity about emerging trends in our communities. Both Logan County Agents were able to attend the training and information session. Ben Winchester from U of M Extension shared new data on the state of housing in counties across North Dakota. As part of our Leadership and Civic Engagement service to the communities, we discussed the state of our own housing in Logan County and what might be some logical solutions to increase and maintain its availability.

Tri County Plot Tour

Approximately 30 area producers took part in this annual event held at the NDSU Extension research plot along Hwy 13. Many varieties of small grains, soybeans, canola, and peas were part of several experimental demonstrations. With the unusual weather conditions this year, it was interesting to see how all of the experiments performed. There were many questions among the producers and Extension personnel that lead to some thought provoking discussion. Josh presented on the issue of Spotted Water Hemlock—a native noxious weed of concern for this area.



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 weekly educational column
- Youth football officiating volunteer
- Extension Civic Engagement Team member
- Extension Natural Resource Team member
- Logan Co Irrigation District formation committee
- Logan County Emergency Planning 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
- 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

New Admin Assistant—Rebeca Hulme

Rebeca joined our office July 1 and has hit the ground running. She has been a valuable asset to our office programming—especially our 4-H program. She brings a wonderful vibe and balance to our office by utilizing her communication skills and life experience. She has already developed a strong social media communication network and has quickly transitioned to be our go to person for technical questions on the 4-H program platforms.

Rebeca holds a Bachelors degree from Carleton College (MN) and owns a small broom making business called Rooted Apricity where she teaches traditional craft skills at workshops and art fairs. She has a strong interest in local community events, youth, artists, and pollinators. In her own words, "I am so humbled and grateful to serve in a role where I can help foster a positive learning space."

Upcoming Events

Kids, Compost, Crops, Consumption Program (3-4 grade food cycle program) Fall 2025 Napoleon School

Stop the Bleed—Field safety program in conjunction with Napoleon Ambulance Fall 2025 TBD

Lead Local—Civic Engagement program Dec 2025 (tentative)

Extension and REC Conference – October 28-30, 2025

