Everything I Needed to Succeed in Business, I Learned in FCS Entrepreneurial Panel

Friday, March 27, 2015
3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Arlene K. Welcher, Co-owner, Artful Escapes, Fitchburg, WI
Former FCS/Health Science Teacher, McFarland High School
www.artfulescapesmadison.com
Arlene has spent most of her life working in family and consumer sciences-related occupations. She taught FCS for ten years and Health Science for five years. Arlene then began an entrepreneurial adventure of her own and opened Artful Escapes with her daughter, Robin, on November 1, 2013. Being a business owner has required using all the skills and knowledge that Arlene taught her students over the years. From Housing & Interior Design, to Consumer Economics & Budgeting, to Hospitality, Food Service & Marketing, to Human Development & Sociology, it has taken all her FCS skills to run her business.

Sarah Jo Karoses, Owner & Baker, The Main Grain Bakery, Stevens Point, WI
BA Family Consumer Science, Food & Nutrition
www.themaingrainbakery.com
Sarah Jo has been owner of The Main Grain Bakery since February 2011. While attending UWSP from 2006 to 2010, she had a strong passion for working in the community, volunteering at local farms, selling at the farmers market, gardening, and baking. With this experience, she felt the need to open a bakeshop where she rises before the sun, mixes endless amounts of dough, and sifts powdered sugar over chocolate muffins. She finds joy serving others infinite amount of sweets, placing the perfect candle in someone’s birthday cake, and picking the right flower to set on top of their highest wedding tier. She will introduce you to the best buttercream you will ever have. In addition, Sarah Jo has experience creating a comfortable atmosphere and retail space, managing employees, and using management tools and software.
Ramona L. Hatch, Author & Owner, Fresh FACS
Retired FACS Educator
www.freshfacs.com
Ramona Hatch has been associated with FACS for over 30 years. As a FACS teacher, she has taught at the middle school, high school, and community college levels. Her creative approach to teaching emphasizes the seamless integration of core academic concepts into the FACS curriculum. Ramona is fond of making the claim that any subject can be taught through the FACS curriculum, and she is more than willing to back up that claim with practical examples. Since leaving the classroom in 2006, Ramona has produced a variety of resources for FACS educators which she hopes will broaden the scope of FACS curriculum. She is passionate about the relevance and importance of FACS and works diligently every day to advance the stature of our profession in schools across the country.

Judith A. Kennedy, Co-Owner, Burr Oak Winery, New Lisbon, WI
Associate Professor – Department of Youth Development, UW-Extension, 4-H Youth Development Agent, Juneau County
www.burroakwinery.com
Judy Kennedy is a lifelong resident of Juneau County, growing up on a family farm, homesteaded before statehood, where the seventh generation currently operates an organic dairy. She spent many years in workforce development and the past ten years with Extension as a Youth Development Agent. Judy and her husband, Steve co-own Burr Oak Winery near New Lisbon. The business opened Memorial weekend of 2004. Her husband is the entologist (wine maker) and grape grower. Judy managed the Tasting Room, Store, Hall, and a variety of events for six years before relinquishing those duties to staff. She remains responsible for all reporting, taxes, and payroll accounting in addition to her day job.

Sue Halama, Laughter Yoga Leader and Norwex Sales Consultant
FACS/Health Sciences Educator, Menomonie High School
www.laughteryoga.org and www.norwex.com
Sue has worked in education for over 20 years in a variety of districts. She earned her masters in school counseling to enhance her teaching and fill her "bag of tricks" when working with students and families. Most recently, she became certified as a Laughter Yoga Leader to again be able to share with others that there are healthy alternatives to improving one’s life. She has also been educating others about alternatives to chemicals in their homes through Norwex products. The journey of empowering others to make healthy choices began when she received her degree in FACS years ago where she believes she was equipped to help others in all areas of their life. Sue says that belief is alive and well thanks to the choices she’s made over the years.