

## Chancellor visits Langlade County

**Nov. 13, 2008**

The boss came to town last week to visit the Langlade County University of Wisconsin Extension staff.

Chancellor David Wilson has vowed to visit the 13 university campuses and the 72 extension offices he oversees in his first 18 months on the job, and on Thursday the focus was on Antigo

and Langlade County.

Wilson and Tom Schmitz, the regional director who supervises Langlade County, were on hand at the Resource Center for a breakfast and get-acquainted meeting starting at 8 a.m., and then went on the road.

Dawn Doperalski, the 4-H and Youth Development Agent for the UW Extension here, explained that she and the other staff members were excited to have Wilson come to Antigo and Langlade County because it created an atmosphere to open lines of communication.

The breakfast drew quite a crowd from the community and an excellent cross section to represent the activities of the UW Extension to the chancellor.

Doperalski said the meeting was designed to be casual and involved what she called “stockholders” in the community, especially those with links to the programs being offered through the university.

Wilson was a gracious guest. He explained that it is important to learn how the institutions he oversees for the extension program touch people in the communities they serve.

“I am learning fast,” he said.



**Before a breakfast this morning at the Langlade County Resource Center, Renate Bromberg, left and Antigo Unified School District Administrator Roxann Bornemann visited with William Wilson, who is on tour of all 13 UW Colleges and 72 county University of Wisconsin Extension offices. He was in Antigo and Langlade County getting to know the extension staff and learn more about the region.**

He took over the post on May 1, 2006 as the first person to serve both as the chancellor of the Wisconsin colleges and the Wisconsin Extension programs. He has a full slate of responsibilities for education networks, campuses and offices that offer a tremendous assortment of programs and access to higher education.

The extension portion of his responsibilities, the focus today, interested the chancellor.

There are 72 county offices, three others serve tribal nations, 12 small business development centers and outreach and e-learning programs in the sprawling system.

Following the breakfast program, the tour moved to the extension's Langlade County Research Station on the airport campus where Alex Crockford heads an extensive potato program.

Crockford explained that Langlade County is the second largest potato producer in Wisconsin, with gross sales of over \$40 million per year. The industry remains strong providing employment, technological developments, seeds to a vast network of growers and in general, food for the world.

The final stop on Wilson's tour was the Langlade County camp at Lake Susan in the town of Upham, a facility that dates to the Great Depression work projects.

It is considered as one of Langlade County's true treasures.