



UW-MADISON EXTENSION

MONROE COUNTY 4-H CLOVERLINK

THE NEWSLETTER FOR 4-H FAMILIES & FRIENDS

Monroe County Extension Office, 206 South K St, Sparta, WI 54656
Phone: (608) 269-8722; Fax: (608) 366-1809
Website: <https://monroe.extension.wisc.edu>

September 2023

NEW BEGINNINGS

Dear Monroe County 4-H Families,

Thank you for the warm welcome into the Monroe County 4-H community! My first month as the 4-H Program Educator has already been an exciting and rewarding new beginning.

This time of year is full of new beginnings; new schools, new grade levels, new teachers, new friends, and a new 4-H membership year starting September 1st!

These new beginnings can result in challenges associated with change, but can also open doors to surprising new opportunities!

As we begin our new 4-H year together, I have a few words of encouragement that may help us cope with the struggles and keep a growth mindset.

Leaders/Volunteers- Take a moment to pat yourself on the back, this amazing organization would go extinct without you! Don't sweat the little things. If your club is in a developing or transition stage, plant the seeds, let your club be adaptive, and have fun. If your club has strong member retention, promote junior mentorship and share responsibilities. Many hands make light lifting!

Parents/Guardians- You are the 4-H superheroes! Thank you for being positive role models and for helping support your children to be active members of their clubs. It may not be today or tomorrow, but

someday your children will thank you for all you do and appreciate the endless transportation services you provide. Remember to take time to treat yourself once in a while, you deserve it!

Members- You are unique and diverse, be proud of who you are! Share your interests with others, welcome new members into your club, and introduce yourself to the new kid at school who may be seeking a sense of belonging. Sharing the 4-H values is contagious and spreads easily through acts of kindness. Don't be afraid to try something new when deciding which projects to choose this year!

Have a wonderful new beginning to both the school and the 4-H year, Cheers!

Keep 4-H Growing Strong,

Jason Hornickel

4-H Program Educator



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FRIENDLY REMINDERS

- Monthly 4-H Newsletter information is due on the **20th**.
- Please keep your mailing and email addresses current in 4-H Online.
- If you plan to un-enroll from 4-H, please contact the office so we can remove you from the system.



If your club or group has events you would like on this calendar, please email information to mocowi4h@gmail.com

Calendar of Events

SEPTEMBER

Fri., Sept. 1, 2023

Annual Financial Report, Treasurer & Secretary Books due

New 4-H Year Begins!

Go to: <http://wi.4honline.com>



Mon., Sept. 4, 2023

Extension Office Closed for Labor Day

Mon., Sept. 11, 2023

Record Books Due in the Office by 4:30 p.m.

Tues., Sept. 12, 2023

Jr. Livestock Committee Meeting

WHERE: Cashton High School, 7 p.m.

OCTOBER

Sun., Oct. 1, 2023

4-H Charter Paperwork Due Online

<https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/4h-resources/wisconsin-4-h-annual-charter-application/>

Oct. 1-7, 2023

National 4-H Week

Tues., Oct. 31, 2023

HALLOWEEN!



2022 - 2023 District Responsibilities

Southeast: Hill-N-Valley; Norwalk Clovers; Stepping Stones

Clean Food Stand Before Tractor Pull

Northeast: Clovers & Cranberries; LaGrange Tunnel-Lites; Valle Ville

Clean Food Stand After Tractor Pull

Southwest: Jolly Joiners; Leon Livewires, Sparta Sprockets

Clean Exhibit Hall Before Fair

Northwest: Denim N' Dust; Dragonflies, Way Finders

Family Celebration

Clean Food Stand After County Fair

4-H Club News

Norwalk Clovers

The meeting was called to order at 7:23 p.m. on August 14th at the Norwalk Village Park by President Kyle Menn. Roll call was to tell the club what the best thing you did in summer was. Nine members were present at the meeting.

The Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were read by Secretary Mariah Semann and the Treasurer report was read by Barb Ornes. A motion to accept both reports was made by Azaria Carpenter and seconded by Hannah Chambers.

Reports: Leader's report, Barb talked about getting a new agent. Kyle talked about showing his rabbits at state fair.

Old/Unfinished business: Landfill cleanup, we are going to wait to do another clean up till next spring.

New Business: We received a generous donation from The Quack Attack Duck Race and discussed a list of ideas on how to give back to the community.

Announcements: Happy Birthday to Barb Ornes.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Azaria Carpenter and 2nded by Hannah chambers.

Submitted by Mariah Semann



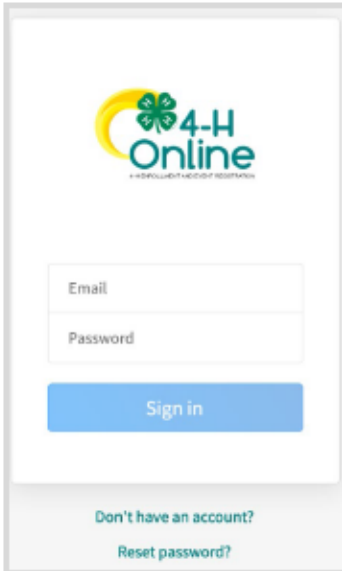
Fair Wrap Up Reminders

- ◆ Reminder to cash or deposit Fair Checks as soon as possible.
- ◆ For those of you who have Livestock checks, please distribute your pictures, get your picture delivery verification form signed and pick up your check at the office as soon as possible.
- ◆ If you were a top award winner in the exhibit hall or barn, it's a good idea to send a thank you to the sponsor of your award. Show them your appreciation for their sponsorship and to encourage them to continue sponsoring at our fair in the years to come.

Project News & Information

2024 4-H Enrollment

Enrollment for the 2023-2024 4-H year begins September 1st. The State will shut down the system on August 31st for updates and it should be back up and running on September 1st. Your membership and profile information will roll over, but your projects will not. Below are instructions on how to log into the system.



1. Go to <https://wi.4honline.com>.
2. Enter your email address and password.
3. Click Sign-In.
4. You will be at the Family Member List Screen.
5. To re-enroll a Youth member, click on Enroll Now, then click member's Grade, and continue through the screens.
6. To re-enroll an Adult member, click on Enroll Now then click Select Volunteer Type to indicate how you are planning to participate. Continue through the screens.

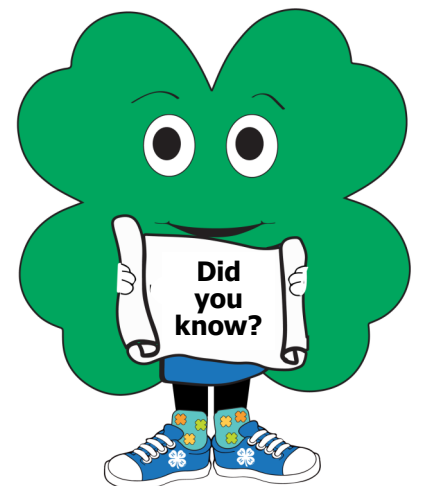
For more detailed information on how to enroll go to:

<https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/start-here/4honline-for-families/> or call the office at 608-269-8722.



FAQ About 4-H

- Is signing up for 4-H the same as signing up for Fair?
 - > No. The 4-H program and Fair are two separate entities.
- What's the difference between 4-H and fair?
 - > 4-H is an educational youth organization that members need to enroll in every year through a software program called 4HOnline. Projects and activities are done all year long.
 - > Fair is a yearly, 6-day event, run by the Monroe County Ag Society. Registration is through an online software program called BlueRibbon. To be eligible to enter in the Junior Fair, you must be a member of a youth organization.
- Do I have to enter the Fair if I am in a 4-H club?
 - > No. Fair is not a requirement of 4-H membership. The Fair is a place where you can show off your 4-H projects that you worked on during the year.



Project News & Information

Foods Revue Results

Congratulations to all who entered in the 2023 Foods Revue! The food looked wonderful and the place settings beautiful.

Merit winners include: Harper Skowronski, Hill-N-Valley; Gus Helming, LaGrange Tunnel-Lites; Alexia Gaunky, Sparta Sprockets.



Special thanks to Kathy Granger who judged the contest this year, and to Superintendent Jennie Marx and to 4-H Leader's Association President, Bobbi O'Neil, who helped make the night go smoothly.

**Family Celebration
November 11
Noon—2 p.m.
Leon Community Center**

**Jr. Livestock
Committee Meeting**
September 12th
7 p.m.
Cashton High School

Come celebrate all your 4-H accomplishments this past year at the Family Celebration on November 11th from noon to 2 p.m. at the Leon Community Center. If you plan to attend, please go to SignUpGenius <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0B49A9A722AAF49-4hfamily>



Volunteers in Preparation (VIP) Training

Our State 4-H Volunteer Specialist, Dawn Vandervoort, is offering more VIP trainings online in September and October. Sessions fill up fast!

- September 14 -- 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.
- September 22 -- 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- September 25 -- 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.

- October 10 -- 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
- *October 17 -- 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.
- October 25 -- 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Please register at: <https://go.wisc.edu/8pr49v> as soon as you decide on a date. They fill up fast. If you don't see a date listed, the session is full. Once you sign up, you will receive the Zoom link to be able to participate.

*Looking to do an in-person All Adult Trainings before VIP. Details to come in October.

Project News & Information



2024 Calendar Photo Contest Results

Thank you to everyone who submitted their photographs for the contest. We had 21 pictures to choose from.

Look for the calendar this fall to purchase.

Congratulations to these members with the top 13 photos:

1. Breeze Bunker, Leon Livewires
2. Zachiah Carpenter, Norwalk Clovers
3. Zaida Carpenter, Norwalk Clovers
4. Mariah Semann, Norwalk Clovers
5. Azaria Carpenter, Norwalk Clovers
6. Shade Bunker, Leon Livewires
7. Reba Flock, Jolly Joiners
8. Reba Flock, Jolly Joiners
9. Shade Bunker, Leon Livewires
10. Mariah Semann, Norwalk Clovers
11. Reba Flock, Jolly Joiners
12. Mariah Semann, Norwalk Clovers
13. Gage Leis, Leon Livewires

Monroe County 4H presents

PHOTO BASICS WORKSHOP

Taught by
ELIZABETH CARPENTER PHOTOGRAPHY

What makes a good photo?
light, subject, composition

9 | 30 | 2023
9:00 AM - NOON

NORWALK LIBRARY
101 Railroad St. Norwalk
email
elizabethcarpenterphotography@outlook.com

PHOTOGRAPHY
PHOTO



ATTENTION 4-H CLUBS - FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY!

The Packerland Rabbit Club is looking for a club to run the concession stand. It will be held at the Monroe County fairgrounds in the Recreation Center. The show date is January 20 & 21, 2024. All proceeds will go to the club running the concessions. For more information please contact Gene Zimdars at 262-707-8223 or email gesazimdars@gmail.com.



Fall Forum 2023 November 4-5 Green Lake Conference Center, Green Lake, WI



Fall Forum is an opportunity for youth and adult leaders to attend the statewide training weekend with county and state staff. Planned by a team of youth and adult volunteers from the Wisconsin 4-H Leaders Council with the support of county and state staff. Our hope is that 4-H youth and adult leaders will come together to connect, collaborate, celebrate, and continue building excitement and energy for a new year of 4-H learning. Register in [4HOnline](#).

The purpose of Fall Forum is to:

- Provide an educational opportunity for youth and adult volunteers
- Develop youth and adult partnerships
- Create an engaging and welcoming environment to facilitate discussion between counties and regions
- Encourage diversity of thought, perspective, interests, and people
- Promote strategies for youth and adults to reach underserved and underrepresented groups

This year's event will include:

- An inspiring keynote address by [Tim Talen](#)
- Opportunities to participate in dozens of youth- and adult-led workshops on Saturday
- Choose your own adventure interactive activities on Saturday night

Introductions to [Wisconsin Leadership Council Candidates](#)

- Details can be found at: <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/statewide-events-and-opportunities/fall-forum/>



Many Dreams. One Love.

Where will your dreams take you?
Let us know. [#4HWeek](#)

National 4-H Week October 1–7, 2023

National 4-H Week, a time to celebrate everything 4-H and take pride in your club. We will have daily activities to participate in and a chance to win prizes! Details will be in the October Cloverlink.

Again this year we hope to have the newspaper do an article on Monroe County 4-H. Please send your club stories and pictures to Jason at Jason.hornickel@wisc.edu by September 15th.

If your club has plans to do something special to celebrate, please let the office know so we can share that with other 4-H clubs and our community.



Project News & Information

MEMBER'S APPLICATION FOR COUNTY 4-H AWARDS

Name _____ Club _____

To be completed by the member with his/her record book. **Place in inside front cover pocket.**

Circle One (Grade in previous school year): Jr. (3-5) Inter. (6-8) Sr. (9+)

On lines 1-3 please list the 3 projects that are being submitted for scoring and record book placement. For the projects on the lines marked "D" you will receive a disk only.

1. _____	2. _____	3. _____
D _____	D _____	D _____
D _____	D _____	D _____

_____ I need a new plaque, my current plaque is full. From 2021 forward, there will only be one color plaque.

_____ I am applying for an OVERALL RECORD BOOK AWARD. This award is calculated using projects on lines 1-3 above.

Member Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature



Key Leadership & "I Dare You" Awards

These are the two most prestigious awards given in 4-H. Any adult can nominate a youth for these awards.

The **Key Award** is open to members in grades 10 - 13. Youth who have done outstanding things in the realm of leadership and project work should be considered for this award. This is for members who have demonstrated consistent growth in their 4-H involvement, developed and applied their leadership skills and actively participated in the functions of their 4-H club and community.



The **"I Dare You" Award** is 4-H members, who demonstrate personal integrity, lead well-rounded lives and possess a willingness to assume responsibility. Those nominated for this award should be "emerging" leaders - those youth who have the qualities and the abilities to lead, but who may not yet recognize or act on their leadership potential. This award is designed to be given to a member in grades 8 - 10 and can only be received once during their 4-H career.

Nomination Form on Page 8.

4-H is a **community** of **young people**
across America who are learning
leadership, citizenship and
life skills.





Key Leadership & "I Dare You" Award Nomination Form



Year: _____

The Key Award provides special recognition to 4-H members who have demonstrated consistent growth in their 4-H Program, who have developed their leadership abilities and who have actively served their club and community.

4-H Members must be entering their junior year of high school the year they are nominated. This form must be completed by a non-related 4-H Leader. Return this form to the Monroe County 4-H Office, 206 South K Street, Sparta, WI 54656, by October 1, 2023.

4-H Member Name _____ Nominated for Key Leadership or "I Dare You"

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Club _____ Birthdate _____ Years in 4-H _____

Name of Parent or Guardian _____

Nominated Member Phone Number _____

Name of Nominating 4-H Leader _____

Phone Number of Nominating 4-H Leader _____

Please list 3 names and phone numbers of individuals who have been instrumental in the youth's leadership development. (These individuals may be contacted to help present the award.)

1. _____

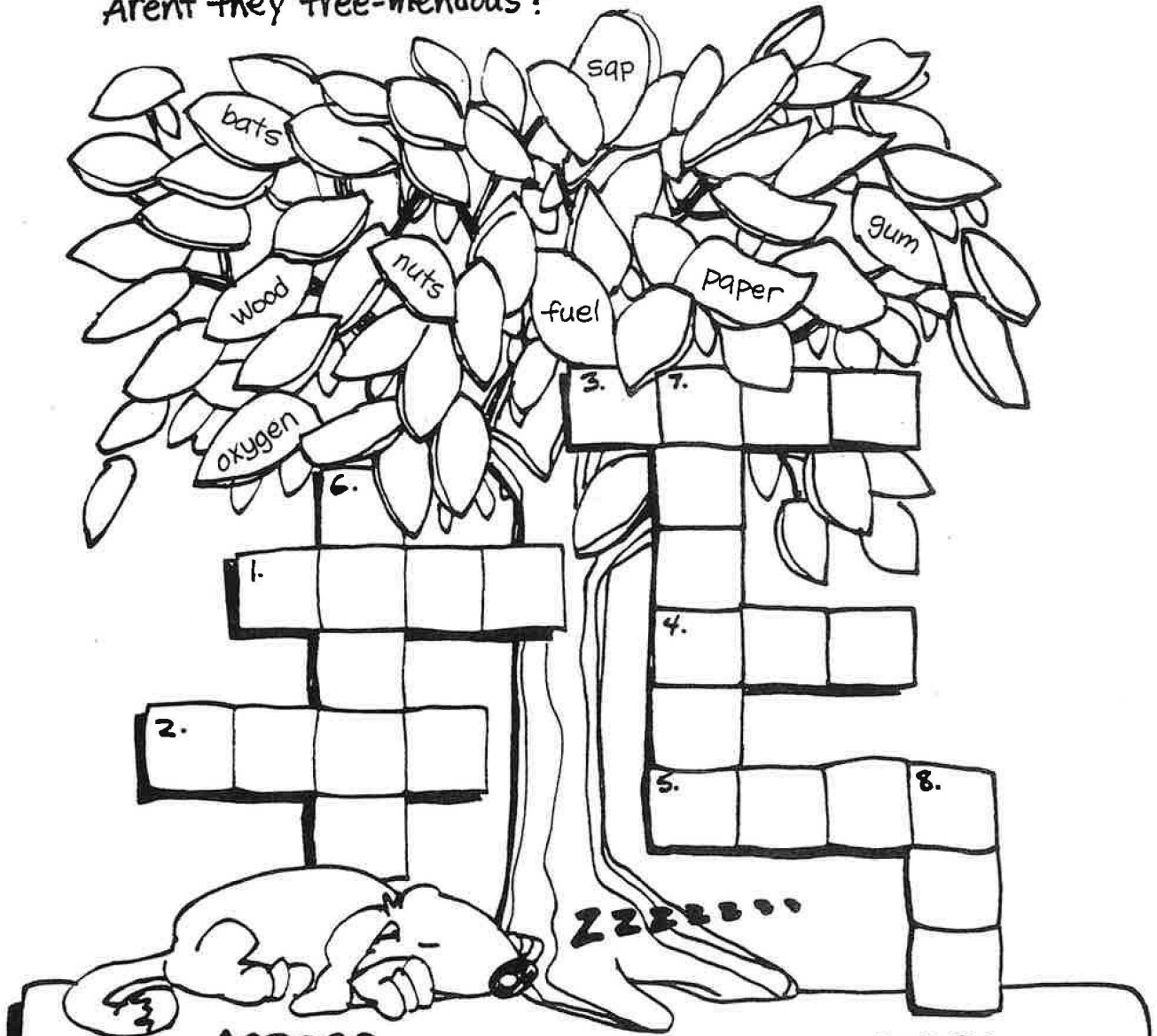
2. _____

3. _____

** After the nomination has been made, eligible youth will be notified. Nominees will be asked to complete a portfolio to exhibit their leadership during their interview in mid-March. The interview committee will decide if the youth and their exhibits are worthy of this prestigious award. Youth may be nominated in following years if they do not achieve the award.

Trees are TREE-mendous!

You'll see 8 things trees give us when you do this puzzle.
Aren't they tree-mendous?



ACROSS

1. Wood from ash trees make great baseball _____.
2. We burn wood for _____ and heat.
3. _____ from trees is used to build our homes.
4. Thank a tree for your chewing _____.
5. Squirrels eat this type of food from trees - and so do we! _____.

DOWN

6. You write, fold, color and draw on this tree product _____.
7. Trees give off _____ we breathe.
8. We boil _____ from sugar maple trees to make pancake syrup.


FRIEND OF 4-H AWARD


The Friend of 4-H Award is presented by the Leaders' Association to a person, group, or business who has shown outstanding support (time, money, supplies, etc.) to the Monroe County 4-H program. This award is not presented to current 4-H leaders.

Information about the Candidate:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Describe the contributions for which the nominee has been nominated on a separate sheet.

Signature of Nominator: _____

Return to the Monroe County Extension Office, 206 South K Street, Sparta, WI 54656 by **October 1, 2023.**



4-H ALUMNI AWARD

The 4-H Alumni Award is presented by the Leaders' Association to someone who was once an active 4-H member (Within the U.S.) They will be recognized for their current outstanding accomplishments and dedication to the Monroe County 4-H Program. This person can be a current 4-H Leader.

Information about the Candidate:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Describe the contributions for which the nominee has been nominated on a separate sheet.

Signature of Nominator: _____

Return to the Monroe County Extension Office, 206 South K Street, Sparta, WI 54656 by **October 1, 2023.**

