



UW-MADISON EXTENSION

MONROE COUNTY 4-H CLOVERLINK

THE NEWSLETTER FOR 4-H FAMILIES & FRIENDS

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November 2023

GIVING BACK

Dear Monroe County 4-H Families,

With the Hunter's Moon rising over the ridges, the changing colors of leaves across the coulees becoming more brilliant by the day, and the smell of autumn in the air, my personal favorite season is upon us! Whether you are out caring for your livestock, spending long days on a tractor or combine, doing yard work, carving pumpkins, picking apples, or like me, in the woods hiking or hunting, take a moment to reflect on what is most important to you during this time of the year.

This past weekend, we went out camping for the last time before winterizing our travel trailer. For me, camping is important to step away from the rigors of life and to enjoy some much-needed downtime unwinding with my wife and dogs. I also enjoy meeting new people and hearing their stories.

I met a retired snowbird couple en route from Northern Minnesota to the south for winter. After a few minutes of small talk, they asked what I do for my job. As soon as I mentioned 4-H, both of their eyes lit up! They shared stories of how they were both in 4-H, how their kids and grandkids were all in 4-H, and that they are both still project leaders when they are back home. It was evident to me how important 4-H was to their family, and how thankful they were to be able to give back as project leaders after all of those years.

Giving back through 4-H can take place in many forms. It is not limited to being a club adult volunteer leader. You can help at a specific event, share your areas of expertise for a project day, join a committee, or help your club leaders plan an activity. Here are a few upcoming volunteer opportunities.

Our Family Celebration is right around the corner on Saturday, November 4th. If your family has not signed up to attend you can still sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0B49A9A722AAF49-4hfamily>. For everyone who has signed up for the Family

Celebration, your contribution is greatly appreciated. It will be a wonderful time to commemorate the hard work of our 4-H members. I hope to see you there!

On Thursday, December 28th, we will be having our annual winter break Project Day at the Sparrows Nest. We hope to offer several project sessions. If you or someone you know wants to give back by offering a project session that shares a hobby or trade, please let me know as soon as possible.

If you are interested in joining a County 4-H Committee, there are several openings available, including a new committee called Expanding Opportunities. This committee will explore out-of-county or state leadership experiences and develop scholarship opportunities for our members to attend these events. If interested in joining a committee, please let me know.

Thanksgiving is also coming up this month. There are many ways to give back through acts of kindness this Thanksgiving. Helping a club plan an activity is another rewarding form of volunteering. I would like to give a big thanks to our club leaders, volunteers, and parents for working together to have a great start to the fall 4-H meetings and activities happening across the county. If your family is cutting crops or hunting this month, I wish you a bountiful harvest. For all families, I hope you find time to enjoy the fall season together, and I am grateful to everyone in our 4-H community.

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

NOVEMBER



Sat., Nov. 4, 2023

Family Celebration, Noon—2 p.m.

WHERE: Leon Community Center

Wed. Nov. 15, 2023

Deadline for re-enrollment in 4-H

Mon., Nov. 20, 2023

4-H Executive Board Meeting, 7 p.m.

WHERE: Leon Community Center

Thurs. & Fri., Nov. 23 & 24, 2023

Extension Office Closed for Holiday



DECEMBER

Mon., Dec. 18, 2023

4-H Executive Board Meeting, 7 p.m.

WHERE: Leon Community Center

Mon., & Tues., Dec. 25 & 26, 2023

Extension Office Closed for Holiday

Thurs., Dec. 28, 2023

December Project Day, time TBD

WHERE: The Sparrow's Nest at the Abbey

2023 - 2024 District Responsibilities

Northwest: Denim N' Dust; Dragonflies, Way Finders

Clean Food Stand Before Tractor Pull

Southwest: Jolly Joiners; Leon Livewires, Sparta Sprockets

Clean Food Stand After Tractor Pull

Northeast: Clovers & Cranberries; La Grange Tunnel-Lites; Valle Ville

Clean Exhibit Hall Before County Fair

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

Family Celebration

Clean Food Stand After County Fair

4-H Club News

Dragonflies

The Dragonflies met on Sunday, Oct. 8th at Tucker and Becky's Pumpkin Patch in Cashton.

The members picked pumpkins to go home and carve for Halloween. There was apple slingshotting, pizza, canned goods, petting zoo, and a fun tire obstacle course! New members joined the club for a fun day. We look forward to our next meeting, scheduled for November 12th at Angelo Town Hall. It will be a "Friends-giving" themed potluck, meeting and craft.

Submitted by Seth McKenna

Jolly Joiners

An hour before the Oct. 1 meeting started, the club members who came early were greeted by Alex Erickson, a local fire fighter, to demonstrate how a fire extinguisher works. He gave a demonstration of how to put out a fire with an extinguisher and then explained how fire extinguishers can be filled for free by dropping them off at the Cashton Fire Department and leaving your name and number. A big 'thank you' to Erickson for providing us with this demonstration!

The meeting was then officially called to order. Club members decided on the date and time of their visit to the Hidden Trails Corn Maze following the November meeting. They also decided to add some items to their 4H concession stand during Cashton basketball games this winter. Among the items under discussion are pizza, extra toppings for mac and cheese like bacon bits, and nacho pretzels. Club members also decided on a date to work at Tucker and Becky's pumpkin patch.

Members who can help were invited to help plant flower bulbs around the gazebo outside of Cashton High School.

The November meeting's activities were announced. They will include learning to score deer antlers and making floral arrangements. The date was set for Nov. 5.

The meeting was then adjourned, and members enjoyed a delicious snack of watermelon, bars and cookies from the host family.

Submitted by Cyprian Klein

Leon Livewires

The September meeting was held Monday, Sept 11, 2023. Topics of discussion included:

We will be scheduling a day for garden clean up at the community center and at Kristy's in the next couple of weeks.

All fair premium checks have been handed out. They need to be cashed by Nov 25.

We had a great Gatorfest with record-breaking sales! The weather was perfect after last years rain out and we sold out of many items. Gatorfest donated 5 gift certificates to us, we did a random draw of those who worked and handed them out.

We provided concessions at the Freeman Walters Auction on Sat Sept 9. It went well. Simonson Auction asked if we would be interested in future auctions.

St Mary's Distillery has rescheduled for Sunday, Oct 8 from 12-5pm.

JD Fest is this Saturday, Sept 16. We are selling food 1-8pm. The club also voted to donate a Farmall Pedal Tractor.

The Rotary Rock 'n' Raise is Saturday, Sept 30 at LCC. We will also be selling food for this event from 2-8pm.

Enrollment is open online, please complete that as soon as possible. Dues must be paid to the club to be complete.

National 4-H week is Oct 1-7.

Project classes will be making a comeback soon. We are working on a schedule.

The Fall Hayride is Saturday, Oct 21, meet at the Leon Community Center at noon. We will have 2 wagons for a ride to the Apple Orchard. We will return to the center around 3:00 for a potluck.

Family Celebration is Nov 4, at noon at the Leon Community Center.

Winter activities are in the works, we are planning skating and tubing.

Dress Up Theme winner was Deegan in his nerdiest attire!

Door prize winners were: Lilah, Katherine, Blake, Lauren, Audrey & Brock.

Next meeting is Monday, Oct 2, 2023 at 6:30pm at Leon Community Center. Theme is Scarecrow! Snack/Demo committee is BNIA Wells, Pfaff, Harrell, Dilley.



Wisconsin 4-H Policies

Wisconsin 4-H operates within the guidelines, policies and procedures of the University of Madison Division of Extension and the United States Department of Agriculture. These policies are established to ensure the educational and administrative integrity of all Wisconsin 4-H programs and activities administered by 4-H staff and 4-H volunteers. Please review the 2023-2024 Wisconsin 4-H Policies at <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/resources/wisconsin-4-h-policies/>



Are You Covered?

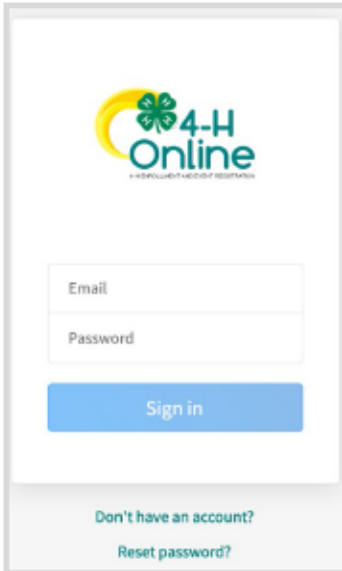
In addition to the insurance coverage provided by the UW Madison to enrolled 4-H members and certified adult volunteers, your club may want to take out extra insurance for a special activity. For example, when Shooting Sports puts on an archery program, we get extra insurance through American Income Life Insurance, Special Risk Division. It's very affordable, usually around \$0.30 per person. So, if your club plans on going skiing, sledding, or ice skating, etc., you may want to get this insurance. Leaders can fill out a form at <https://www.aillife.com/specialriskdivision/activityreport> and submit it a few days BEFORE the event. You do not have to know the exact number of participants, just an estimate (including adults). AFTER the activity, submit the form with the actual number of participants. The minimum fee per event is \$8.00. If you prefer the office to submit this form, just give us a call at 608-269-8722.



Project News & Information

2024 4-H Enrollment - DEADLINE NOVEMBER 15, 2023

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.



ATTENTION: LAST NEWSLETTER !!!

This will be your last newsletter if you haven't re-enrolled yet for the 2023-2024 4-H year. We are currently using the 2022-2023 mailing list, but next month we will start using the current list in 4HOnline. Hurry, November 15, 2023 is the deadline to re-enroll for the 2023-2024 4-H year.

If you are having difficulties with the 4HOnline program, please call the office at 608-269-8722 and we will help you or we will contact the State if it is more than what we have access to.

Have you moved? Make sure to update your address in 4HOnline, or call the office and we can change it for you.



Project News & Information

Family Celebration November 4 Noon—2 p.m. Leon Community Center

Come celebrate all your 4-H accomplishments this past year at the Family Celebration on November 4th 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>

Come join in
the fun!

Jr. Leader Meeting

The Jr. Leaders will be meeting on Saturday, November 18 at 7 p.m. at the J & M Flying Wheels near Oakdale. All Monroe County 4-Hers 6th grade and up are invited.

If you want to be active with Jr. Leaders this upcoming year, remember to sign up for Jr. Leaders as a secondary club in 4-HOnline to stay informed.



ATTENTION Sewing Members!

If you plan on enrolling in the Clothing Project this year, please contact Barb Ornes, Project Leader, at barbornes@gmail.com. Sewing classes will start at the end of October or early November. For members who sewed last year and want to continue, please email Barb and let her know.

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!

November 13 -- 9 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

November 15 -- 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.

November 21 -- 7:30 a.m. - 9 a.m.

Please register at: <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/resources/volunteer-resources/4-h-foundations/volunteers-in-preparation/> 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.

Project News & Information

December Project Day

We have started to plan the December Project Day! It will be at The Sparrow's Nest at the Abbey on Thursday, December 28. If you want to lead a project session, please contact Jason by calling the office at 608-269-8722 or email him at jason.hornickel@wisc.edu.

This year we are trying to do the **mandatory educational program** for **adult leaders** at the end of the day on December 28th, tentatively at 4 p.m. Each club should send their club leader, or designate another certified adult volunteer to attend. This is a required part of being a chartered club.

Leadership Certification Training Workshops

Date: Saturday, December 2nd 2023

Time: 8am to 5pm

Location: Onalaska Armory,
910 Oak Forest Dr, Onalaska,
WI 54650

Disciplines: Archery & Air
Rifle/Rifle

**Registration deadline is
November 24, 2023**




 **register here:**
forms.gle/RPnqjwxD6YtCwkV88



Cedar Crest Ice Cream 4-H Flavor Contest

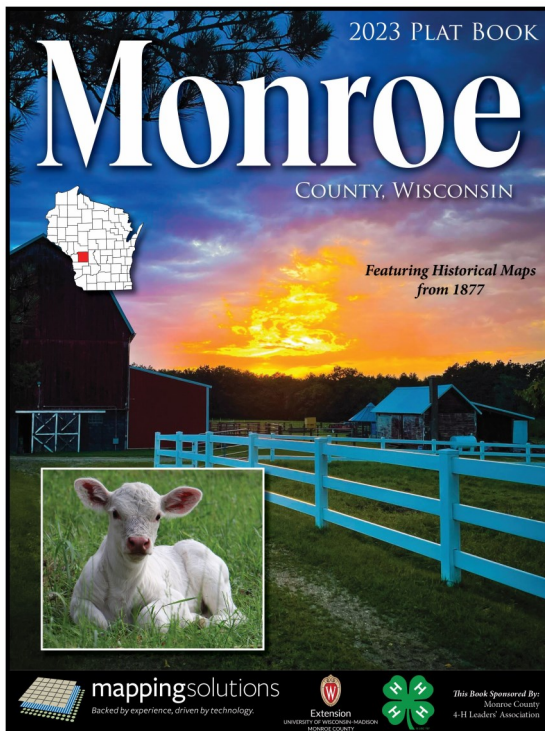
Cedar Crest Ice Cream and the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation have teamed up again to present the "Cedar Crest Ice Cream 4-H Flavor Creation Contest" for Wisconsin 4-H clubs. All clubs are eligible to submit their idea for a delicious new ice cream flavor, along with a flavor description and interesting flavor name. Entries are accepted September 1, 2023 through November 15, 2023. Top flavor is awarded a \$500 gift and the top five finalists receive an ice cream party for their club.

More information and the entry form are available at www.cedarcresticecream.com/4H-Flavor-Contest. Entries are due by November 15, 2023.

SAVE THESE DATES!!

- > **December Project Day**, Thursday, December 28, The Sparrow's Nest at the Abbey, time TBD
- > **Mandatory Educational Program** for club leaders, Thursday, December 28, The Sparrow's Nest at the Abbey, @ 4 p.m.
- > **Festival of Arts**, Saturday, March 2, 2024, Meadowview School
- > **Fur, Fin & Feather**, April 27, 2024
- > **Upham Woods Summer Camp**, July 31 - August 2, 2024

Project News & Information



2023 PLAT BOOKS AVAILABLE

The new 2023 plat books are available for purchase! You will find an updated government directory page, school district maps, fishing stream maps, and the 1877 antique landowner maps.

The new edition is for sale for \$35 at the Monroe County Extension office, Bank of Cashton, Citizens First Bank in Sparta, St. Joseph Equipment in Norwalk, Ergo Bank locations in Kendell, Norwalk and Wilton, Dependable Title in Tomah, and the Register of Deeds in Sparta.

Great gift idea for the hunter in your family and a unique holiday gift!

➔ American Spirit Experience ←

June 14-23, June 21-30, and July 5-14, 2024

The 4-H American Spirit Experience is an opportunity for youth 8-10 grades to experience history & heritage by immersing in a 10-day bus journey to the East Coast and Canada. Staff and volunteers plan and facilitate the experience, with youth participants leading content throughout the experience. Participants increase their knowledge of American history while experiencing where it occurred and have unique opportunities for dynamic exposure to diverse cultural experiences and perspectives of the foundation of our nation, all while developing positive relationships with adults and their peers from around the state.

American Spirit Experience Objectives for its Participants:

- Increase knowledge and understanding of America's heritage
- Build awareness of the many steps taken to gain U.S. independence and freedom
- Further develop skills in leadership and personal expression of values
- Increase awareness of self in relationship to others
- Share what was learned with others in your club and county

Participant Eligibility

- All youth grades 8-10
- Pre-Registration in 4H Online 2.0 is open starting October 1-November 15, 2023. Youth and their parent/guardian must complete the online registration together; it includes questions for the youth participant to answer!
- Each experience is limited to 44 youth. Decisions about who is selected to travel are based on the following factors: # of youth per experience, full rooms by identified gender, ages of youth traveling together, and eligibility to participate in future years. The committee does take into account registration dates and times.
- **Estimated Cost of Experience** = \$1,900 – Invoices will be sent to each county starting December 1, 2023. At that time, checks NEED to be written out to **4-H American Spirit** and NOT Sheboygan County or Extension!

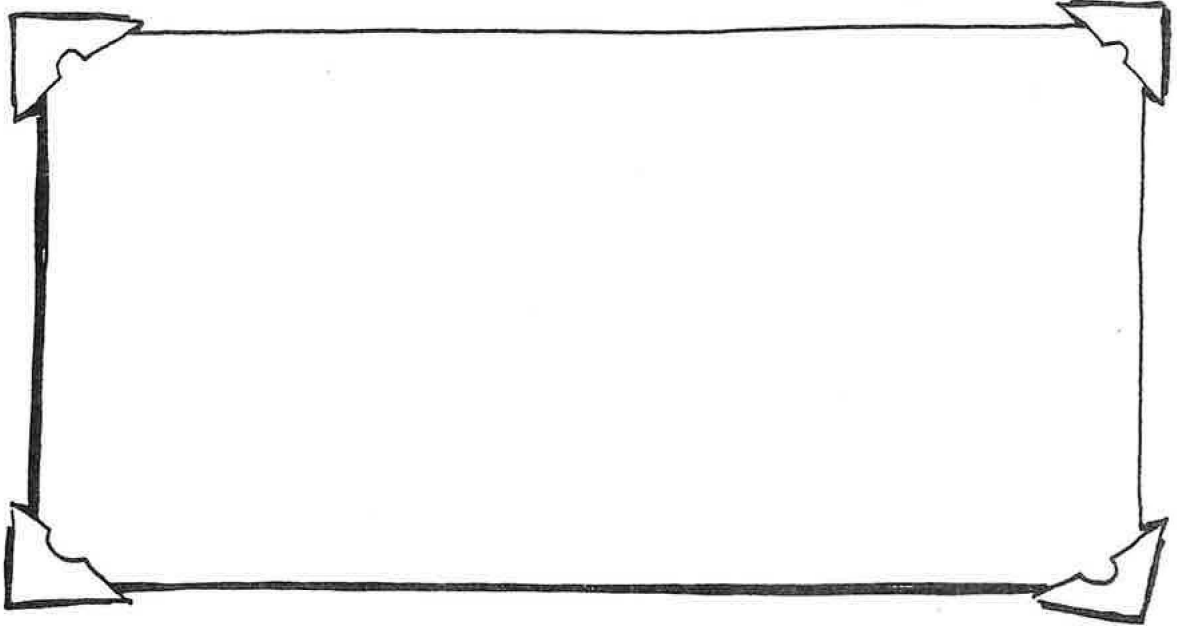
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University of MN Extension Service
Cloverbuds Publication 4H-MI-5560-S

Meet my pet

Write about your pet. If you have no pet, pretend!
Draw or paste a picture of your pet here.



My pet's name is _____ . It is a _____ .

I got my pet from _____ : My pet's
birthday is _____ . Its age is _____ .

My pet can do these tricks: _____

_____ .

I keep my pet neat and tidy by _____

_____ .

I feed my pet _____

_____ .

My pet's bed is a _____ .

My pet loves to _____

_____ .