



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  
Website: <https://monroe.extension.wisc.edu>

## April 2024

### VOLUNTEER VIP'S

#### Hello Monroe County 4-H Families,

April is National Volunteer Month, and I would like to express my gratitude to our 4-H volunteers who are truly invaluable. I appreciate every one of our 71 enrolled volunteers for the valuable time they contribute to 4-H. Volunteers are the backbone of most non-profit and charitable organizations, and 4-H is no exception!

National Volunteer Month is a great opportunity to inspire youth and adults alike to share their abilities and efforts for a good cause and to highlight the physical, emotional, and social benefits of volunteer work. Research shows that volunteering is good for your mind and body, connects you with others that may have similar interests, provides unique skill-building experiences, and adds fun and fulfillment to our everyday routines.

#### So, let's celebrate our 4-H volunteer spirit this month!

If you have any pictures with summaries of how you, your club, or your family have positively contributed to our community this year or plan to do so in the upcoming month, please email them to us. We will showcase your volunteer efforts on the Monroe County Facebook Page and also submit them to the newspapers. I look forward to seeing how your hands are being used for larger service!

If you have any volunteer opportunities or ideas to share, please let us know, and we will do our best to spread the word!

I saved the best for last. As we all know, our club events and county-wide programming would not be possible or successful without our dedicated volunteers. I would like to give a huge shout-out to the following groups of Volunteer VIP's for recently going above and beyond to make Monroe County 4-H so amazing!

\*Executive Board Members for your late Monday night meetings and the countless ways you contribute to our organization!

\* Club Leaders for your energy, ideas, and drive to make your clubs the best they can be by providing endless positive experiences!

\* Project Day Leaders for sharing your passions and interests to help our youth explore and learn new skills!

\* Junior Leaders Chaperones who stepped up when needed for our lock-in to give the members a fun night together and helping with Clover College!

\* The Festival of Arts Committee that planned and coordinated a great day for displaying beautiful artwork and letting our members' talents shine on stage!

\* Sparta Sprockets for providing delicious concessions with a smile for our participants and judges at the Festival of Arts!

\* Shooting Sports Instructors who wholeheartedly commit themselves to mentoring shooting sports safely. Especially Grandpa Joe for his dedication to make it possible and to keep the program on target!

On behalf of UW-Extension and 4-H families, we thank the Monroe County 4-H Volunteers for all they do for our kids, clubs, community, country, and world.

#### Happy National Volunteer Month!

*Jason Hornickel*  
4-H Program Educator



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#### FRIENDLY REMINDERS

- Monthly 4-H Newsletter information is due on the **20<sup>th</sup>**.
- 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 [Jason.hornickel@wisc.edu](mailto:Jason.hornickel@wisc.edu)

## Calendar of Events

### APRIL

**Tues. April 9, 2024**  
**Jr. Livestock Committee Meeting, 7 p.m.**  
**WHERE:** Tomah High School

**Mon., April 15, 2024**  
**4-H Leaders Association, 7 p.m.**  
**WHERE:** Norwalk Library (tentatively)

**Sat., April 27, 2024**  
**Fur, Fin & Feather Show**  
**WHERE:** Sparta Barney Center

### MAY

**Wed. May 1, 2024**  
**Pop Tabs DUE TODAY, 4:30 p.m.**  
**WHERE:** Extension Office

**Sun., May 12, 2024**  
**Happy Mother's Day**



**Mon., May 13, 2024**  
**Livestock IDs due, 4:30 p.m.**  
**WHERE:** Online <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScqCjiQ-K40d8nS3j3BmkOxanW4MhyBOswtNHQ5CKoB6gunnA/viewform>

## Project News & Information



### Pop Tabs

We are collecting Pop Tabs for Ronald McDonald House Charities. Your club collections of pop tabs need to be in the Extension office by 4:30 p.m. on May 1st. We will weigh each club's collection to find who has bragging rights for 2024!

The tabs are in support of Ronald McDonald House. RMH provides a place to stay when families have children hospitalized. Let's see which club can bring in the most pop tabs!

### June Dairy Windows



All clubs will be receiving a monetary award of up to \$100 for creating a window display in a local business. The window must share **at least three Dairy Facts** to receive the highest prize. The windows, with consent of the business, are asked to stay in place until mid-July. To be eligible for the monetary award, you must submit a picture to the Extension office by June 7th. Send the picture to [Vicky.kast@wisc.edu](mailto:Vicky.kast@wisc.edu). Please register your club by **June 1st** at: <https://forms.gle/GXDyH26pFvZ5zvW2A>

## 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**

## Summer Intern Position



The Extension Office is looking for an Assistant for Summer 2024. This position works with the 4-H Educator and will help create, lead and evaluate programs for 4-H youth. Scheduling is flexible and would be for up to 10, 40-hour weeks through the summer. This is a great opportunity to build your resume! Please contact the office at 608-269-8722 if interested.

## Project News & Information



This small animal show will be held on Saturday, April 27, 2024, at the Sparta Barney Community Center and is open to all youth in grades 3-13. There are some classes available for K-2nd. The show gives our youth the opportunity to show their rabbits, poultry, cats and small pets with face-to-face judging. They receive pointers and learn hands-on about their animal and how to improve when showing at the fair. In addition to the animals, there will also be a poster and an animal photography show. Join us for educational sessions, a poster exhibition, and raffle. Lunch will be available for purchase.

Entry forms for the show and show bill can be found at: <https://monroe.extension.wisc.edu/files/2024/01/2024-Fur-Fin-Feather-Show-Bill.pdf>

Deadline to register for the show is Wednesday, April 24th, 2024.



### Area 13 Summer Camp



**July 31—August 2, 2024**  
Upham Woods, Wisconsin Dells

4-H youth and community members in grades 3-8 during the 2023-2024 school year are invited to come to cabin camp! Activities such as swimming in the Wisconsin River, boating, exploring the outside through fun nature activities, crafts, songs, games, hiking trails, and campfires are all part of the experience. Cost is generally around \$225 for 4-H members and \$250 for community campers. Includes transportation from two pick up sites in Vernon County, lodging, all meals & snacks, camp t-shirt, name button and all activities and equipment. Cost will be confirmed closer to the date with registration. Deadline to register is June 1st, go to: <https://forms.gle/VsKtwa1ck8NUaqtz9>

Camp counselors and chaperones are needed to make this opportunity available for our members. Youth in grades 9-13 can be counselors, and adults 21+ can be chaperones. You will gain incredible leadership experience while having a great time making memories at camp! Call the office if you are interested.



**SAVE THESE DATES!!**

- > **Jr. Livestock Committee meeting**, April 9, 2024
- > **Fur, Fin & Feather**, April 27, 2024
- > **Clothing Preview**, June 17, 2024
- > **Foods Revue**, July 17, 2024
- > **Fair Clean Up Days**, June 15 & July 20
- > **Upham Woods Summer Camp**, July 31 - August 2, 2024

## Project News & Information

### Scholarship Opportunities

> **WI Towns Association** - Applications are due May 24, 2024. The \$1,000 scholarship is available to students who are graduating from a Wisconsin public or private high school and will be attending a Wisconsin public or private college or university in the fall of that year. Proof of enrollment in college is required. Details and application are found at: <https://www.wisctowns.com/resources/scholarship/>



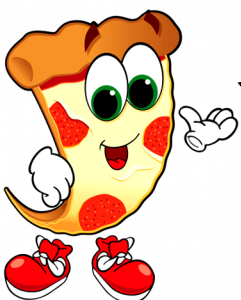
### Dog Training Plans for 2024-Dates to be Announced

Please watch our **Monroe County 4-H Dog Project** page on Facebook for details on the upcoming spring/summer training sessions. If you are not on Facebook, please email [lawnviewfarm@yahoo.com](mailto:lawnviewfarm@yahoo.com) or text 608-633-3186 to request email or text notifications.



### Fair Raffle Tickets

The Monroe County Ag Society is once again having it's calendar raffle to raise funds to help run the fair. Tickets are \$10 each and your name goes back in the drawing, making it possible to win more than once. If you are interested in selling or buying a ticket, please contact Annette Trescher at [treschera65@gmail.com](mailto:treschera65@gmail.com) . All tickets need to be returned to Annette or the fair office by **June 1st**.



Look in next month's newsletter for information on the Tractor Pull food stand!



### Jr. Livestock Committee Meeting

Reminder that the next meeting will be on April 9, 2024, at the Tomah High School at 7 p.m.

### Jr. Livestock IDs



Reminder that market swine, sheep and goat IDs are due online by 4:30 p.m. on Monday, May 13, 2024. Here is the link to the online self ID form: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScqCjiQ-K40d8nS3j3BmkOxanW4MhyBOswtNHQ5CKoB6gunnA/viewform>



### Sheep Weigh-In

Sheep exhibitors that want to enter into the rate of gain contest will need to attend the Sheep Weigh-In on Wednesday, May 8th. The event will be at the Cashton High School Ag Lab from 5-7 p.m. Please park behind the school and come up the side of the building by the greenhouse. This counts as your Pre-ID and you do not need to submit an online form if you attend this event with your animal.



### 2024 Fair Dates

Wednesday, July 24 - Sunday, July 28

Fair entries will be online again this year. Keep an eye on the [website](#) for updates.

Club display themes will be picked by each club. The displays keep getting better every year, we can't wait to see them in July!

Remember: All animal exhibitors are expected to help at the fair clean-up day.

## Project News & Information

### Festival of Arts Results

We had a nice turn out for the Festival of Arts with a lot of arts & crafts, photos, and live performances. **CONGRATS** to everyone who received merit awards!



#### ARTS & CRAFTS

Aubri Schaldach, Jolly Joiners, Saw Blade Painting  
 Claire Flock, Leon Livewires, Goat Milk Soap  
 Brock Bucholz, Leon Livewires, Casing Flag Clock  
 Shane Bucholz, Leon Livewires, Cam Shaft Table  
 Chase Bucholz, Leon Livewires, Grainery Clock  
 Mirabella Fanell, Jolly Joiners, Flower Garden Painting  
 Lane Paulson, Leon Livewires, Green Bay Packer Pillowcase  
 Zachiah Carpenter, Norwalk Clovers, Gourd Birdhouse  
 Rachel Zastoupil, Valle Ville, Patriotic Canvas Painting  
 Cooper Alexander, Clovers & Cranberries, Wooded Cutting Board

#### SPEAKING

Chase Bucholz, Leon Livewires, Table Manners  
 Audrey Wells, Leon Livewires, Poetry Reading

#### PHOTOGRAPHY

Vanessa Ornes, Dragonflies, "Joy"  
 Azaria Carpenter, Norwalk Clovers, "Downy Woodpecker"  
 Gwynalyse Horton, Norwalk Clovers, "Baby Girl"



#### MUSIC

Rachel Zastoupil, Valle Ville, "Magical Morning"  
 Lydia Schmitz, Leon Livewires, "Do you Want to Build a Snowman?"

#### CLUB DISPLAY

Leon Livewires—1st Place  
 Jolly Joiners—2nd Place  
 Sparta Sprockets—3rd Place

#### Has your club kept the Treasurer's Reports up to date?

Do you have all receipts in the book? This is a friendly reminder to get them caught up this month, and organizing your receipts monthly helps speed up the review. Doing the reports monthly also makes completing the Annual Financial Report (AFR) easier this fall. If you have any questions, please contact the office, we're here to help! **AFRs are due September 1st.**



#### Fair Clean Up Dates

June 15, 9 a.m.—clean up barns and around grounds to prepare for tractor pull.

July 20, 9 a.m.—get ready for fair, clean barns, set up gates, set up exhibit hall & more.



# Cloverbud

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## Wet Wonder Quiz

How many answers do you know? How many can you guess?  
Try the quiz on someone else!

True False

1. We don't have to worry about water. There will always be more.

2. A dinosaur could have walked in some of the water you drank today.

3. You'll drink enough water in your lifetime to fill over 300 bathtubs.

4. Industries use lots of water to make their products. How much water is used to make the steel for just one car?

- A. 100 Gallons
- B. 40,000 Gallons
- C. One million Gallons



- ANSWERS**
- 1. False. The total amount of water in the world is the same as it was millions of years ago. But there are more people using more water than ever before. Fresh water is running short in some areas. Saving water is important so we don't run short in more areas.
  - 2. True. The water cycle recycles the same water over and over again. Water is never destroyed, but it can get polluted.
  - 3. True. That's a good reason to keep our water clean and safe!
  - 4. C. Most of this water can be cleaned up and used over again. But if poisonous wastes leak into water supplies, it's almost impossible to make it clean again.