



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>

May 2024

WRITE A 4-H STORY

Hello Monroe County 4-H Families,

The end of the school year is near, and an exciting 4-H summer is ahead of us all. I hope your projects and record books are well on their way to completion, and you are having a wonderful 4-H year so far.

Congratulations to the clubs who collected and turned in Pop Tabs for the Ronald McDonald House Charities. There was a great effort put forth county-wide, which will help a great cause. Way to go 4-Hers and stay tuned for the results!

I love receiving your club photos and articles on happenings and events. Several of them have been published in the Monroe County Herald, which is wonderful. Please continue to submit them so the Herald can plan on featuring and highlighting 4-H year-round!

With a summer filled with fun 4-H events, anyone can submit articles, not just club reporters. It would be amazing if every member wrote and submitted a 4-H story! It would also be the perfect addition to your record book.

The editor of the Monroe County Herald, Benny Mailman, is a former 4-H member and a strong supporter. He wanted to share some suggestions with our members to help everyone be able to write impactful 4-H articles!

"Parents and grandparents love seeing their kids/grandkids' names in the paper, especially with photos. Readers really want to hear about everything, including the particulars and possibilities of future projects. If you write a strong enough story, it may even lead to donations and contributions towards a 4-H project or club, so that it becomes a reality, versus a "What could have been." Youth-written stories have the power to move the needle on awareness."
-Benny Mailman

Here are four 4-H Event Reporting Pro Tips from the Monroe County Herald Editor Benny Mailman:

Pro Tip #1- Photos are King/Queen: People love their names in the paper, put them in! Photos are King And Queen, of course. Be sure to include who is in the photo, and the photographer should also get credit for the photos as well by including "Photo by Name."

Pro Tip #2- Time and Place of the Meeting or Event: Be sure to include where and when the event or meeting took place, and if it is recurring like meetings, when the next event/meeting will be. Readers want to know where a meeting or event was held. Give the name of the building and the exact address, including the town.

Pro Tip #3- Who was There: Remember to include the name of your club, and who participated in the meeting, like "Treasurer (First and Last Name), read the report. We have this much in our budget" "Name spoke on their project," Special guests, and how many were in attendance. You could also put a 4-Hers name and in parentheses put the number of years they have been involved in 4-H.

Pro Tip #4- Be Specific: Also good to know is that when you explain an event, if you say "We talked about Legos" that is too vague. Take the time to expand on what you did, to include specific details or a funny or interesting story on what was discussed or done at the event or activity.

Thank you Benny Mailman for sharing your pro tips and for supporting and promoting 4-H! Let's keep celebrating Monroe County 4-H by sharing with our community the great things you do! Keep striving to thrive, 4-H members! I look forward to seeing you at one of our upcoming events.

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 Jason.hornickel@wisc.edu

Calendar of Events

MAY

Wed. May 1, 2024

Pop Tabs DUE TODAY, 4:30 p.m.

WHERE: Extension Office

Wed., May 1, 2024

Elroy Fair online entries open

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>

JUNE

Fri., June 7, 2024

Dairy Window pictures DUE TODAY

WHERE: Vicky.kast@wisc.edu

Mon., June 17, 2024

Clothing Preview Entries DUE TODAY

Mon., June 24, 2024

Clothing Preview *NEW DATE*****

WHERE: Monroe County Justice Center

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

Project News & Information

Jolly Joiners

At 2 p.m. on April 7, many of the 4H members met in the ag room in Cashton High School to make bird houses. There were two types of bird houses made: for bluebirds and for wrens. At the last meeting, a sign up sheet was sent around asking which type club members wanted to make, and with a choice of barn boards or regular pine boards. I personally chose to make a wren house with pine boards.

When the official meeting commenced, there was a recap of the community appreciation dinner that was held in March with 77 people in attendance. Some ideas were brought up to change the dinner in future years with invite cards and menu adjustments. Some 4Hers thought that the club should send out the date more in advance, and then closer to the actual date send out the invitations, adding that no reply is needed to come to the dinner. Menu-wise, someone thought that pizza should be added. Another thought by a 4H members was to add a pasta dish.

The club is also going to do a spring clean-up and 4H park clean up in Cashton in late April. For the spring clean-up, our 4H "grandma" found a family in town with a large yard who needs help with landscaping. Also in late April, some members will practice their animal showing abilities with the Fur, Fin, and Feather event.

Also brought up were the Monroe County Fair's 4H raffle tickets, which are calendar tickets for the month of July, with winners announced during the fair. Each 4H member is responsible for selling tickets. So if you are interested in buying a raffle ticket, check with your local 4Her for more information!

After the meeting, a snack consisting of bars and fruit snacks accompanied by milk was given to happy 4H club members.

Submitted by Cyprian Klein, club reporter

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 leadership opportunity! Please contact the office at 608-269-8722 if interested by May 15th.

Project News & Information

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.

Shooting Sports—Shotgun & .22 Rifle

All 4-H members who signed up for shotgun, .22 rifle or shooting sports projects, have been sent the registration form, safety rules and assumption of risk in mid-April. **WI State 4-H rules require members must be 12 years old and have completed hunter safety.** Shooting times will be Tuesday and Thursday nights, starting June 11th, at the Cataract Sportsmen's Club at 6 p.m. Bring these forms with you and the fee of \$10 per youth per discipline. Please sign up so we have enough equipment and ammunition available: <https://forms.gle/xYXFe7Lu1J5Lbwsa8> Call the office if you have any questions.



Foods Revue

This is a pre-fair event, meaning that your food item(s) will be judged face-to-face at this event. Remember to add this entry on your exhibitor registration for Fair—Dept. 25, 4-H

Foods Revue. Details are on Page 33 in the Exhibitor Handbook which is online.

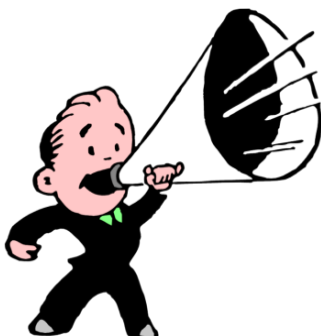
The Foods Revue will be held on July 17, 2024 at the Leon Community Center. Registration begins at 6:30 p.m. and judging starts at 7 p.m. More details will be in the June Cloverlink.



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!



DATE HAS CHANGED for CLOTHING PREVIEW - it has been moved to a week later - JUNE 24, 2024

Project News & Information



Dog Training

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 Jackie Menn at lawviewfarm@yahoo.com or text 608-633-3186 to request email or text notifications or Dona Goede at 608-317-1488, donagoede@gmail.com

So far we have one training site for the county. Dona Goede will be teaching weekly obedience classes at the Cashton Park, Sunday evenings starting April 14th at 6 p.m. If you know of any 4-H volunteer certified and qualified to teach at another site in the county this year, please contact Jason Hornickel or Jackie Menn.

Agility training dates in June/July will be announced. Location will be at the Anderson home outside Sparta. Jackie Menn will be coordinating and training.

Looking Ahead:

Elroy Fair Obedience, Showmanship and Agility shows, Sunday, June 23

Monroe Fair Obedience, Showmanship, Rally shows, Wednesday, July 24

Monroe Fair Agility show, Sunday, July 28

Wisconsin State 4-H Dog Show Obedience and Showmanship, Jefferson County Fairgrounds, Oct. 5-6

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/>

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-K40d8nS3j3BmkOxanW4MhyBOswtNHQ5CKoB6qunnA/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.

Rooster & Youth Crowing Contest

An exciting new contest will be at the Fair this year - a rooster AND youth crowing contest! Can you make your rooster crow on demand? Watch your June newsletters for details.



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. Please register your club by **June 1st** at: <https://forms.gle/GXDyH26pFvZ5zvw2A>

Project News & Information

Food Stand News

Monroe County 4-H members will again host a fund raising food stand for the Tractor Pull on June 20-22 and the Fair on July 24-28. This is one of our biggest fund raisers for the year. The chart indicates how many shifts your club is responsible for working, and is calculated on the number of eligible members in Grades 3-13, divided by the total number of members in the county. Adults are not a part of the calculation, but parents and grandparents are welcome to work a shift. Just be sure to put the club name in the sign up so we can give credit to the correct club!

The SignUpGenius form will be released on May 28th, so be sure to check your email.

Club Name	Gr 3-13 Count	% of total membership	# of shifts PULL	# of shifts FAIR
Clovers & Cranberries	12	5%	6	15
Denim 'n Dust	12	5%	6	15
Dragonflies	12	5%	6	15
Hill-N-Valley	11	5%	5	14
Jolly Joiners	20	9%	9	25
LaGrange Tunnel-Lites	47	21%	22	60
Leon Livewires	55	25%	26	70
Norwalk Clovers	18	8%	9	23
Sparta Sprockets	8	4%	4	10
Stepping Stones	16	7%	8	20
Valle Ville	5	2%	2	6
Wayfinders	6	3%	3	8
TOTAL	222	100%	105	282



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.



2024 Monroe County Fair Dates

Wednesday, July 24 – Sunday, July 28

Fair entries will be online again this year. Keep an eye on the [website](#) for updates. Deadline to enter is June 30th.

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.



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. All tickets need to be returned to Annette or the fair office by **June 1st**.

Cloverbud

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

I'd rather...

Circle the two things you like to do best. Tell your group why.



2024 CLOTHING PREVIEW ENTRY FORM - MONDAY, JUNE 24, 2024

Registration Deadline: Monday, June 17, 2024

Mail entries to: Monroe County Extension Office, 206 So. K Street, Sparta, WI 54656



NAME _____ ADDRESS _____
 CITY/ST/ZIP _____ CLUB _____
 GRADE _____ YR(S) IN CLOTHING _____

CONVENTIONAL MACHINE SEWING

BEGINNERS - 1st and 2nd year Clothing Project members. Limit: 2 entries per exhibitor, plus Consumer Buymanship. Open to members in their 1st or 2nd year enrolled in the Clothing Project. Serger may also be used for any entry.

- _____ **Class A**, Clothing Preview, Beginning, Grades 3-4
- _____ **Class B**, Clothing Preview, Beginning, Grades 5-6
- _____ **Class C**, Clothing Preview, Beginning, Grades 7+

Lot No.

- _____ 1. Apron
- _____ 2. Skirt
- _____ 3. Shorts /Culottes
- _____ 4. Pants
- _____ 5. Lounge pants
- _____ 6. Blouse/shirt or top
- _____ 7. Outfit for general wear
- _____ 8. Dress/Jumper
- _____ 9. Nightwear
- _____ 10. Outerwear
- _____ 11. Consumer Buymanship Outfit (at least one item constructed)
- _____ 12. Cos Play Outfit

CONVENTIONAL MACHINE SEWING

INTERMEDIATE - Limit: 2 entries per exhibitor, plus Consumer Buymanship. Open to members in their 3rd, 4th, or 5th year enrolled in the Clothing project. Serger may also be used for any entry.

- _____ **Class D**, Clothing Preview, Intermediate, Grades 5-6
- _____ **Class E**, Clothing Preview, Intermediate, Grades 7-8
- _____ **Class F**, Clothing Preview, Intermediate, Grades 9+

Lot No. (Conventional Machine Sewing)

- _____ 1. Nightwear
- _____ 2. Skirt
- _____ 3. Shorts
- _____ 4. Pants
- _____ 5. Lounge Pants
- _____ 6. Blouse/Shirt or Top
- _____ 7. Skirt with Top
- _____ 8. Pants with Top
- _____ 9. Shorts with Top
- _____ 10. Jumper or overalls with Top
- _____ 11. Jumpsuit, short or long
- _____ 12. Sportswear outfit (at least two pieces)
- _____ 13. Dress for general wear
- _____ 14. Dress for best wear
- _____ 15. Outerwear
- _____ 16. Garment for someone else
- _____ 17. Consumer Buymanship Outfit (at least one item constructed)
- _____ 18. Cos Play Outfit

When: Monday, June 24, 2024

Time: Registration: 9:00 a.m.

Judging begins: 9:30 a.m.

Where: Assembly Rm, Monroe County Justice Ctr, Sparta

Entry Deadline: June 17, 2024

This is a pre-fair event, meaning your clothing item gets judged face-to-face before the fair, not at the fair like most exhibits. If you want to receive your premium you must enter Clothing Preview on your fair entry form. Entries will be judged for suitability of garment to individuals and purpose in regards to color and design, general appearance, neatness, posture, fit, and construction (to the extent that it affects the general appearance).

Registrations are due to the Extension Office or postmarked no later than June 17. Once your registration form is received, more information will be sent to you with details for the event. You can also scan your form and send it to vicky.kast@wisc.edu.

Each participant is expected to model in the Clothing Preview and in the Style Show at the county fair. The Style Show will be held **Sunday, July 28th** beginning at **2:30 p.m.** at the Fairgrounds in Tomah. Failure to participate in the Style Show will result in the loss of your premium, unless you have obtained permission from Superintendent Denise Murray.



CONVENTIONAL MACHINE SEWING

ADVANCED - Limit: 2 entries per exhibitor plus Consumer Buymanship. Open to members with six or more years enrolled in the clothing project. Serger may also be used for any entry.

- _____ **Class G**, Clothing Preview, grades 8+

Lot No.

- _____ 1. Nightwear or Loungewear
- _____ 2. Beachwear
- _____ 3. Skirt with Top
- _____ 4. Shorts with top/shirt
- _____ 5. Pants with top/shirt
- _____ 6. Dress/outfit for general wear
- _____ 7. Garment for pre-school child
- _____ 8. Garment for school child
- _____ 9. Jacket, unlined
- _____ 10. Suit, unlined
- _____ 11. Dress outfit for best wear
- _____ 12. Dress outfit for party/formal wear
- _____ 13. Sports outfit, two piece (not dress)
- _____ 14. Garment for Adult
- _____ 15. Altered/Recycled Garment (must provide before picture)
- _____ 16. Outerwear/coat
- _____ 17. Jacket, lined
- _____ 18. Suit, lined
- _____ 19. Jumpsuit, short or long
- _____ 20. Costume for yourself/another
- _____ 21. Consumer Buymanship Outfit (at least one item constructed)
- _____ 22. Cos Play Outfit

Would like the "Modeling Your 4-H Garment" handout sent to you?

___ Yes ___ No

See Dept. 26—Clothing Preview in the Fair Book for more information.



Youth Leadership Conference

UW–Stout | July 16-18, 2024



The annual **Youth Leadership Conference** is a dynamic three-day event for high school students across Wisconsin to develop their **leadership skills** while learning about the purpose, operation, and scope of **cooperative businesses**.

Take the opportunity to...

- See **what makes the cooperative business model different and successful**, then apply this knowledge to fun and challenging cooperative activities.
- Identify and learn how to develop your own **leadership skills**.
- Discuss **cooperative careers** with industry professionals.
- Be **entertained and challenged** by highly acclaimed motivational speakers who understand teens and talk about topics that are relevant in your life.

This is a **by-teens, for-teens cooperative leadership conference** that is planned and developed by a youth board elected at the previous year's event.

Who should apply?

- High school students with family members who belong to a participating electric cooperative.
- Students active in their school and community.
- Students who are interested in learning more about the cooperative business model.

What does it cost?

- All registration costs* are covered by the generous support of your local cooperative.
- Students should contact their cooperative to apply for a full sponsorship.



Questions?

If you would like more information regarding the program or registration, please contact:

Trevor Clark, Vernon Electric Cooperative, 608-634-3121, tclark@vernonelectric.org