



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 2026

MAKING CONNECTIONS

Dear 4-H Members, Families, and Volunteers,

As May rolls in, I can practically feel the sunshine calling! Longer days, warmer weather, and more time outside with the people who make life fun—yes, please. Just last night I met up with my high school girlfriends on a patio, and somehow three hours disappeared in a blur of laughter and stories. I’m still smiling about it today.

And the good vibes don’t stop there—we’ve got a month full of chances to learn something new and spend time together.

Our Jr. Leaders are meeting on May 1st at the Extension office as they put the finishing touches on Clover College and their two-night adventure at Pine View Campground in Ft. McCoy. Even more exciting, they’re hosting a brand-new event for Grades 3–6 on Friday, May 29th from 7–9 p.m. Families are welcome to camp along and join in for a full weekend of fun!

Now’s also the time to start dreaming up your dairy window theme—June 1st will be here before we know it! Every year, I’m blown away by the creativity and talent in our members, so gather your crew and let those ideas flow.

Speaking of dairy (because... Wisconsin!), the Trescher family is hosting the Monroe County Dairy Breakfast on June 6 at their farm—Trescher Town-View Dairy in Cashton. It’s the 45th anniversary, which makes this beloved “breakfast on the farm” tradition even more special. Good food, great company, and a celebration of all things dairy—what’s not to love?

At the end of the day, it’s these shared moments and connections that make life so meaningful. I hope you’re able to jump in, try something new, and make some unforgettable memories along the way.

And to all the amazing moms out there—Happy Mother’s Day!

Vicky



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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 vicky.kast@wisc.edu

Newsletters and information available online at: <https://monroe.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-youth-development/>

Calendar of Events

MAY

OFFICE CLOSED ON FRIDAY, MAY 1, 2026

Fri., May 1, 2026

Jr. Leader's Meeting, 6 p.m.

WHERE: Extension Office, 206 So K St., Sparta

Mon., May 18, 2026

4-H Leaders Assoc. Meeting, 7 p.m.

WHERE: Cashton H.S. cafeteria (tentative)

Fri., May 29, 2026

Jr. Leader's Overnight, meeting at 5:30 p.m.

WHERE: Pine View Campground at Ft. McCoy

Fri., May 29, 2026

Friday Fun Night, 7—9 pm

WHERE: Pine View Campground at Ft. McCoy

Sat., May 30, 2026

Clover Camp, 11:30 am—3:30 pm

WHERE: Pine View Campground at Ft. McCoy

JUNE

Mon., June 1, 2026

Tractor Pull Food Stand Link Opens, 8 a.m.

WHERE: Check your email

Thurs., June 25-27, 2026

Tractor Pull

WHERE: Tomah Fairgrounds

Tues., June 30, 2026

Clothing Preview, 9 a.m. Registration

WHERE: Extension Office, 206 So K Street, Sparta

2025 - 2026

District Responsibilities

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

**Family Celebration
Clean Food Stand After County Fair**

Northwest: Denim N' Dust; Dragonflies, Sparta Sprockets

Clean Food Stand Before Tractor Pull

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

Clean Food Stand After Tractor Pull

Southwest: Jolly Joiners; Leon Livewires

Clean Exhibit Hall Before County Fair

Project News & Information

<- - ATTENTION - ->

Monroe County Fair Swine Participants



NEW for 2026: Swine MUST be tagged with an 840 RFID tag that will be free and provided by the Fair. You can pick up tags at the Fair office in Tomah (608-372-2081), the Extension office in Sparta (608-269-8722), or with your FFA advisor. Please call ahead if you are coming to get tags to make sure there is enough available.



Monroe County Fair Meat Animal IDs DEADLINE



The IDs for sheep, swine and goat are due May 11, 2026. Use the online form to register: [2026 Monroe County Fair Animal ID Form](#)



Dog Obedience & Agility

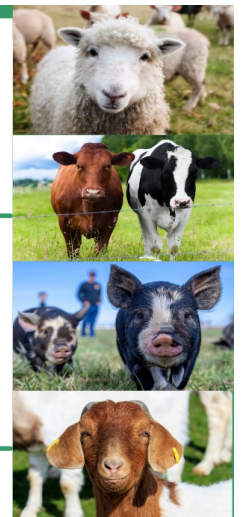
If you are signed up for the Dog Project and are interested in attending Dog Obedience and Dog Agility classes, please contact Jackie Menn at 608-633-3186 or lawnviewfarm@yahoo.com

WI 4-H AREA ANIMAL SCIENCE DAYS

Save the Date

**GRANT COUNTY
JUNE 19TH**

**CLARK COUNTY
JUNE 30TH**



Project News & Information



Clover College

Come join us on Saturday, May 30th at Pine View Campground at Ft. McCoy from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Youth in Grades K-2 are invited to this special event. Cost is only \$10 per member. The Jr. Leaders will host the fun activities which will include STEM, crafts, food and outdoor games! Register at: <https://forms.gle/7ApK1Eh5zCK5X7YF8> by May 22nd. Enrollment is limited to 24 participants.



Friday Fun Night

The Jr. Leaders will be hosting a Friday Fun Night for members in grades 3-6 on May 29 from 7 pm—9 pm. at the Pine View Campground at Ft. McCoy. Come enjoy a campfire, eat some hot dogs and s'mores and have fun using tie dye and making your very own t-shirt. Cost will be \$10 per member. Register at: <https://forms.gle/FRFQERyPS5XhUpVA7> by May 22nd. Enrollment is limited to 24 participants.

Jr. Leaders Overnight

Stay over on Friday, May 29 & Saturday, May 30th in the Pine View Campground at Ft. McCoy. Two destination trailers are rented for the Jr. Leaders.

The planning meeting for this event will be on Friday, May 1st at 6 p.m. at the Extension Office.

All 4-H families are invited to attend and make it a fun filled weekend. Families should contact Ft. McCoy directly to reserve a campsite. The Jr. Leaders will be staying on the East side of the lake @ Site 127.



New Opportunity - Join the Fun This Summer!

We're thrilled to launch a brand-new fundraising effort in downtown Sparta this summer! Come be part of the action as we showcase and sell beautiful photography cards, plat books and other unique non-food items.



Find us right on the sidewalk in front of Second Season, Saturdays, June 13th and July 11th. This is a great way to connect with the community, support a great cause, and enjoy a lively summer atmosphere downtown!

Interested in helping out? We'd love to have you! Reach out to Elizabeth Carpenter, Photography Project Leader, at carpenter.elizabeth@outlook.com.



June Dairy Windows

All clubs will be receiving a monetary award of up to \$150 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 5th. Send the picture to vicky.kast@wisc.edu. Please register your club by **June 1st** at: <https://forms.gle/kxf9FBEatwwQ1SkdA>



ATTENTION: PayPal Customers

We will no longer be using PayPal as a method of payment. The 4-H Leaders Association purchased a credit card machine last year. It was first used in the Food Stands to give customers another way to pay for food products. When not in use at the Food Stand, it is in the Extension office and can now be used to pay for plat books, greeting cards, project days, summer camp and other events. This change will save us fees from being deducted for using the PayPal platform.

Project News & Information



Become a Certified 4-H Shooting Sports Instructor

If you—or someone you know—is interested in becoming a Certified Shooting Sports Instructor, now is a great time to get involved or share this opportunity!

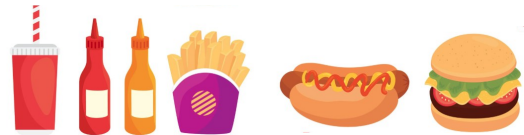
Our county program needs additional instructors to support our core team and keep things running strong and consistent. We are currently looking for additional certified shotgun instructors, along with backup support in rifle and archery. Workshop registration fees will be reimbursed.

We are also looking for volunteers to support fundraising efforts, which are essential to keeping our program accessible and sustainable.

An upcoming certification workshop is a great opportunity to get started. If you're unable to attend, more sessions will be offered this Fall and Winter—keep an eye on the [WI Shooting Sports Certification](#) page for updates or more information.

If you're passionate about working with youth and want to make an impact, we'd love to have you on the team. Please reach out with any questions.

Food Stand News



Monroe County 4-H members will host a fund raising food stand for the Tractor Pull on June 25-27 and the Fair on July 22-26. 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 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 at 8 a.m. on Monday, June 1, 2026. Please watch your email for the link.

Club Name	# of members	% of Total Membership	# of shifts PULL
Clovers & Cranberries	11	4%	5
Denim 'n Dust	11	4%	5
Dragonflies	13	5%	6
Hill-N-Valley	13	5%	6
Jolly Joiners	21	9%	9
LaGrange Tunnel-Lites	37	15%	16
Leon Livewires	53	21%	23
Norwalk Clovers	38	15%	17
Sparta Sprockets	21	9%	9
Stepping Stones	19	8%	8
Valle Ville	10	4%	4
TOTAL	247	100%	108

SAVE THESE DATES!!

- > **Tomah Tractor Pull**, Thursday, June 25 –27, 2026, Recreation Park in Tomah
- > **Foods Revue**, Wednesday, July 15, 2026, at the Leon Community Center
- > **Family Celebration**, Saturday, Nov. 14, Tomah American Legion

2026 Fair - July 22-26

The 2026 Monroe County Fair Exhibitor's Handbook is now online! The Ag Society would like to remind you to only sign up for things that you will take to fair. Each entry costs money, so if you sign up for 20 items and only take 10, they still get charged for 20!

The Monroe County Ag Society is again having a calendar raffle to raise funds. Tickets are \$10 each, and you can win more than once. Please contact Annette Trescher at treschera65@gmail.com. All tickets must be returned by June 1st to Annette or the fair office.

2026 CLOTHING PREVIEW ENTRY FORM - TUESDAY, JUNE 30, 2026

Registration Deadline: Monday, June 22, 2026

Mail entries to: Monroe County Extension Office, 206 So. K Street, Sparta, WI 54656 OR email: Vicky.kast@wisc.edu

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: Tuesday, June 30, 2026

Time: Registration: 9:00 a.m.

Judging begins: 9:30 a.m.

Where: Extension Office, 206 So K Street, Sparta

Entry Deadline: June 22, 2026

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 22. 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 26th** 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

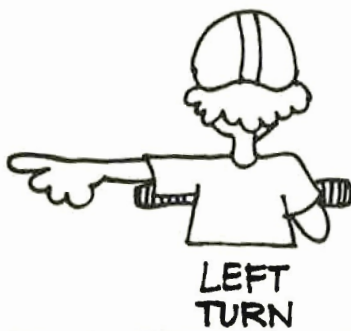
Would like the "Modeling Your 4-H Garment" handout sent to you?

___Yes ___No

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

Steer clear with hand signals!

According to the law, a bicycle rider must use the left arm to signal when turning or stopping.



What are the riders going to do?



Bike Safely! Tell what's wrong with each of these pictures.

