

SEPTEMBER

Cloverlink



NEW BEGINNINGS

September is a time filled with new beginnings - including a new school year, a new 4-H program year, and this September, a new 4-H Educator! For those of you I haven't met, my name is Emily, and I joined UW-Madison Extension as the 4-H Program Educator for Monroe County in July. I have personal and professional experience in the areas of equine science, natural resources, tourism, education, and community development, but I look forward to getting involved in all aspects of 4-H moving forward! I've already attended my first Monroe County Fair and Driftless Area 4-H Camp which were great experiences, but I can't wait to continue meeting members, leaders, and families throughout the rest of the year.

Outside of work, I love spending time outdoors, whether it's hiking, skiing, horseback riding, paddling, or camping with my husband, Camden. I also share my life with two cats and one very special horse. While I have previously lived in numerous states across the country, I am excited to be back in the Driftless Region where I grew up, especially since nothing else compares to our beautiful blufflands.

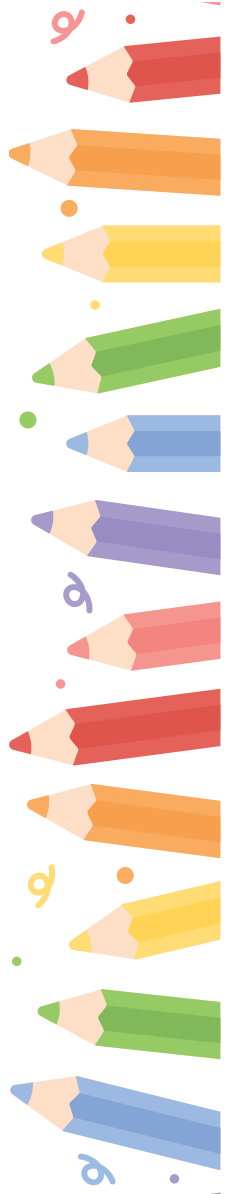
I'm hoping to make a visit to each club once the 4-H year gets rolling, but if you'd like to meet me before then, feel free to stop by the Extension office in Sparta anytime! We are planning to have an open house to officially introduce myself on October 5th from 3-6 PM (as a part of National 4-H Week!) as well. However, if you have any questions before then, please feel free to reach out to me, and I can't wait to work with you all!

Have a great start to the new school year and the new 4-H program year!

Emily

CONTENTS:

- Upcoming Events
- New 4-H Enrollment Year
- Foods Revue Results
- Clothing Preview Results
- Cloverbud Corner
- Jr. Leader Kick-Off Event
- 4-H Recognition Awards
- Record Books



UW-MADISON EXTENSION
Monroe County

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Tues., September 1** - Deadline for Annual Authorization for 4-H Clubs
- **Thurs., September 3** - 4HOnline Opens for the 2026-2027 4-H year! Go to <https://wi.4honline.com>
- **Tues., September 14** - Deadline for Record Books
- **Sat., September 19** - Jr. Leader's Kick Off Event, noon, Vernon County Fair Food Stand. Register by Sept. 16th at: <https://forms.gle/6vg5hgg4Wiz3Zik39>
- **Thurs., October 1** - Friend of 4-H, 4-H Alumni, Key Leadership, "I Dare You" nominations due to the Extension Office
- **Sun., October 4-10** - National 4-H Week
- **Mon., October 5** - Open House, 3 - 6 pm, meet the new Educator



2026-2027 4-H ENROLLMENT

Enrollment for the 2026-2027 4-H year begins September 3rd. The State will shut down the system on August 31st for updates and it should be back up and running on SEPTEMBER 3RD. This is a little longer than previous years because a bigger upgrade is happening. 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.

DEADLINE TO RE-ENROLL IS NOVEMBER 15, 2026!

FOODS REVUE RESULTS

Congrats to everyone who entered the 2026 Foods Revue! It was a fun night and the food was delicious. A special shout out to Katrina Lapham who was the judge, and Jennie Marx the Foods Revue Superintendent.

Merit award winners, from left to right: Kennedy Schmitz, Leon Livewires; Lydia Schmitz, Leon Livewires; Malachi Frost, LaGrange Tunnel-Lites.



CLOTHING PREVIEW RESULTS

Our very talented sewing members showed off their skills at the 2026 Clothing Preview! Everyone did an amazing job. Special thanks to Gretchen Kanable, who judged the event, Superintendent Denise Murray, and to Barb Ornes, Project Leader.

Mackena Cunitz, apron - Blue
Makenah Semann, dress/jumper - Blue
Mackena Cunitz, nightwear - Blue
Margaret Brtizman, cos play outfit - Blue
Brooklyn Edmond, skirt - Red

Brooklyn Edmond, outerwear - Blue - MERIT
Daphne Arndt, nightwear - Blue
Daphne Arndt, shirt/top - Blue - MERIT
Azaria Carpenter, overalls - Blue
Miranda Arndt, altered/recycled garment - Blue - MERIT



This is Me

When I'm alone I like to _____

When I grow up I might be a _____

My job at home is _____

At school I'm good at _____

At home I'm good at _____

My favorite sports are _____

My favorite games to play are _____

I'm a good friend because _____

One thing I don't like AT ALL is _____



Name

This is a picture
I drew of me all
dressed up for
my career!



JR LEADER KICK-OFF EVENT

The Jr. Leader's will be hosting a kick-off event for the new 4-H year at the Vernon County Fair on Saturday, September 19. All members in Grades 7+ who are interested in becoming a Jr. Leader are welcome to attend. Meet at noon at the 4-H Food Stand for a brief meeting, then enjoy fair rides and an evening of Demolition Derby starting at 7 pm. Pick up time is 5 pm, and 9:30 pm if you are staying to watch the Derby. If you plan on joining us, please sign up before Sept. 16th at: <https://forms.gle/6vg5hgg4Wiz3Zik39>



FAIR WRAP UP

Remember to cash or deposit your fair checks as soon as possible. Check with your Club Leader to pick them up.

Members who have livestock checks, please distribute your pictures, get your picture delivery verification form signed and pick up your check at the Extension 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 appreciation for their sponsorship and encourage them to support the fair next year.

RECORD BOOKS 2026

DUE TO EXTENSION OFFICE 9-14-2026

It's time to get in gear with your record books. The record book is a picture of your 2025-2026 4-H year and there will be a monetary award for 3rd–8th grade members. A 4-H "Savings Account" will be established for each successful record book. A deposit of \$50 will be added. This money can be used for 4-H events throughout your 4-H career.

Find the forms and instructions at: <https://monroe.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-youth-development/forms-applications/>



4-H RECOGNITION AWARDS

Our Family Celebration on Saturday, November 14, recognizes members and leaders for their outstanding work, dedication or support during our 2025-2026 4-H year. If you know someone who is deserving of an award, please check out our webpage, under Forms & Applications, for the Award Nomination Forms and descriptions. Awards include: Friend of 4-H Award, 4-H Alumni Award, Key Leadership, "I Dare You" Award. Nominations should be sent to the Extension Office by October 1, 2026.



Join us in celebrating National 4-H Week, October 4-10, 2026!

DAILY CHALLENGES

SHARE YOUR SPARK SUNDAY

Tell us about your 4-H "spark" – the specific passion, goal, or future career interest that 4-H has helped you ignite.

MEET THE EDUCATOR MONDAY

Come meet the new 4-H Educator, Emily, and enjoy some light snacks/refreshments at the Monroe County Extension Office (located at 206 South K Street in Sparta) from 3-6 PM!

THINK AHEAD TUESDAY

Take some time to think about a 4-H project that you might want to do this year, and take a picture of you working on that project or researching it.

WILLING TO SERVE WEDNESDAY

Complete a small act of community service or kindness, such as picking up litter, writing a thank-you note to a volunteer, or baking treats for your club leaders. Take a photo of it to share on our Facebook post!

THROWBACK THURSDAY

Share an older photo from a past 4-H camp, fair, or club meeting. Then, reach out to an old 4-H friend or leader to thank them for the memory.

FUN FACT FRIDAY

Send in your favorite fun fact about 4-H, your club, or something else that you learned about during your time in 4-H.

SIGN-UP SATURDAY

If you haven't signed up for 4-H yet, do that today! Go to 4-H Online at <https://wi.4honline.com>. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the office at (608) 269-8722.

DIRECTIONS

Each challenge will be posted on the Monroe County Extension Facebook page. If you complete a challenge and share your response on the Facebook post, you will be put in a drawing for a 4-H Prize!