

4-H FORECAST

February / March 2024

WELCOME to the more than 80 new 4-H members in Waupaca County 4-H and welcome back to the returning 4-H members! We look forward to a great year of 4-H opportunities and experiences. I encourage everybody, returning members and new members, to ask questions, try new things, set goals for yourself, make new friends, work together, learn, and have fun.

ELECTIONS FOR THE 4-H LEADERS' BOARD will be held at the March Association meeting, March 26. If any leaders are interested in learning more about this rewarding experience have them contact a current board member or the Extension Office. The positions the board is looking to fill are Vice President, District Representatives (one from each District each year), and two Youth Representatives (grade 7 and above).

5 Reasons to be a part of the 4-H Leaders' Board

- Learn about other 4-H clubs in the county and how they work.
- Work closely with other youth and adult leaders who are committed to making the Waupaca County 4-H Program the best it can be.
- Get the scoop on the latest 4-H opportunities and news.
- Ensure funds are budgeted for items most important to the membership.
- Discuss ideas with others in similar roles around the county.

Thank you for considering this important role in our 4-H Program!

Also, WELCOME, to Alison Acker, who recently started as a Waupaca County 4-H Americorps member. Alison will be in this role through August. Alison will work closely with community partners in youthserving organizations, assess existing offerings, identify areas for capacity improvement, and create and deliver new 4-H opportunities throughout Waupaca County.



4-H Speaking and Demonstration Contest

The Speaking and Demonstration Contest will be back at the

county level. More out about this. Mark your calendars for Tuesday, March 12 at 6:30 p.m. at the Courthouse in Waupaca. This is for all ages and you can do poetry, prepared speech, storytelling, and more in the speaking contest. For the demonstration contest, consider the 4 -H projects you are enrolled in, what



would you want to teach others about?

4-H New Family Orientation

All new families are invited to attend New Family Orientation on Thursday, February 29 at 6:15 p.m. at the Manawa Elementary School, 800 Beech Street, Manawa. Please Register by February 27. There will also be games or a craft for children.



<u>Super Saturday</u> will be held on March 23, 2024 at the Elementary School in Manawa. Super Saturday is a project exploration event where members, leaders, and parents can sign up for a variety of sessions. Registrations will be mailed and emailed to all families soon.



2024 Waupaca County Fair Dates: While planning for 2024, please note the Waupaca County Fair dates are August 21-25. Check out the Waupaca County Fair website at https://waupacacountyfair.org/ for more information.

New enrollments after February 1

Youth can enroll in 4-H anytime, however new 4-H members who join after the February 1st new enrollment deadline pay a reduced enrollment fee of \$3.00 and cannot exhibit in the junior fair under 4-H for the current year.

4-H Forecast

The 4-H Forecast is the primary way to keep 4-H families up to date on what is happening in Waupaca County, as well as on the district, state, and national levels. The newsletter contains information about upcoming workshops, programs, contests, and registration information. In some cases, this is the only way you will receive information about activities and events at the county level. Please read each issue and make note of events your family is interested in. The 4-H Forecast can be found online at https://waupaca.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-youth-development/4-h-program-topics/4-h-newsletters/

Each *4-H Forecast* includes county and state level 4-H opportunities and deadlines. These are in addition to your own club's meetings. You are expected to attend 4-H club meetings; however, you are invited to take part in as many county activities as your family schedule will allow. <u>Enclosed is a 2024 Waupaca</u> <u>County 4-H Calendar</u>.

<u>Please honor the deadlines listed</u>. They are established so planning committees can prepare for you. If we do not know you are coming, we can not buy supplies for you, send you more information you may need, or events could be cancelled due to low registration. If you need more information about any of the items in the Forecast or about 4-H, call the Extension Waupaca County office at 715-258-6230. Office hours are 8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Our address is: Courthouse, 811 Harding Street, Waupaca, WI 54981. You can also find more at <u>https://waupaca.extension.wisc.edu/</u> and Facebook Waupaca County 4-H. Email Penny at <u>penny.tank@wisc.edu</u>

State 4-H Newsletter

You have hopefully noticed in your email inbox a State 4-H newsletter from the State 4-H Office. I encourage you to read these newsletters in addition to the Forecast newsletter to stay up to date on many opportunities! If you have missed past issues of the state newsletter please check them out here <u>https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/home/news/</u> There may be some items you only see in the state newsletter because of the timing in between local newsletters. Don't miss out!

<u>Record Book Pages</u>

Printed record book pages will be available soon by request. For members, record books are a valuable part of the 4-H experience. They are intended to help you develop lifelong skills such as:

- \Rightarrow Setting goals
- \Rightarrow Planning and organizing
- \Rightarrow Communicating in writing
- \Rightarrow Evaluating effort and progress



Once completed, you have a valuable record of accomplishments that can be used when applying for awards, scholarships, college or a job! Remember to begin saving information for your record books throughout the year and to start filling out the record book pages early. Refer to the guidelines you receive with the record book pages for details about completing your record book.

Record book pages are available in print or as fillable forms on the internet.



VOLUNTEER LEADER NEWS

4-H Volunteer Impact Study – You May Be Contacted!

What you do makes a difference! We are excited to share that our state will be participating in the 4-H Volunteer Impact Study of volunteers in the North Central Region.

This survey is being conducted as a part of 12 state effort to document the impact of volunteering.

It will focus on three areas:

- the personal benefits of your volunteer experience;
- the impact you have on the organization by volunteering; and
- how your volunteer efforts contribute to your community in which you live and work.

A random sample of volunteers of 1000 volunteers from each state will be surveyed. This study will be conducted through an electronic survey. If you are selected, you will receive an email to let you know you have been selected to participate.

You may be picked!!! If you are, please respond. We want to hear from you and learn from your volunteer experiences.

Your comments will be used to quantify the personal, organizational and public impacts of volunteers involved with 4-H Youth Development Programs in our twelve-state region.

Your impact is great, and we want to hear from you!!!

Club and/or Project Printouts

If you need any reports run for your club or a specific project area the Extension Office will gladly print them by request. Please look these reports over as soon as you receive them and get back to us with discrepancies. It's much easier to fix now than when fair entries are due!

What is Expected of 4-H Project Leaders?

- First, make sure you're a certified 4-H leader!
- Get started now. Member enthusiasm for a project is highest at the time of enrollment. Find out who is enrolled in the project and set up your meeting now.
- At one of the first meetings of the year, help members set their

goals for the project. Be sure members bring their 4-H member's record sheet with them to the meeting.

- Help members keep a record of what they did or made in the project for the year.
- Review progress toward the year's goals at your final meeting of the year.
- Try to organize and conduct at least three project meetings per year. Remember project tours or smaller work sessions can be offered to members in addition to group meetings.
- Involve youth leaders in meaningful ways. They are capable of helping in planning and teaching—not just being the helper or the clean up crew!
- Set an example in being prepared, organized, and flexible in working with youth.
- Seek out additional resources for project meetings.
- Keep your club's General Leader informed about meetings and other announcements.

Call the Extension Office if you have any questions.



Wisconsin 4-H Hall of Fame Nomination

Any group or individual is eligible to submit a nomination for consideration. Nominations due March 1, 2024. Application can be found at: https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/wisconsin-4-h-hall-of-fame/ The Hall of Fame is established to recognize 4-H volunteers, financial supporters, staff, and pioneers who made major contributions to the 4-H movement at the local, state, and national levels. The candidates represent 4-H in the broadest sense – they may be 4-H volunteers, financial supporters, UW— Madison Division of Extension professionals, or staff employees who had an impact on the lives of children, their community, or state through significant contributions of time, energy, or financial resource to 4-H and its members.

LEADERS' BOARD AND ASSOCIATION

The next Leaders' Board Meeting will be on Thursday, March 14 at 6:30 p.m., Manawa City Hall. The next Leaders' Association Meeting will be Tuesday, March 26 at 7:00 p.m., Manawa City Hall. Clubs in District I (Sunrise, Woodland Badgers, Krossing Creeks, and Diamond Dreamers) are asked to report and share a light snack.



4-H Leaders' Board Treasurer Position

Every two years, the 4-H Leaders' Association accepts applications for the county level treasurer position. The general purpose of the position is to maintain, prepare and submit financial records for the Waupaca County 4-H Leaders' Association (and financial duties that go with this including, but not limited to, paying bills, taking in payments, treasurer reports for each Board meeting, drafting annual budget, preparing paperwork for taxes, and more). The treasurer, as a 4-H leader, would be a voting association member, but not a voting board member. If you are interested in this position call the Extension Office for a copy of the more detailed position description and an application. Applications are due to the office by **March 8, 2024**.

General Leader Meeting

There will be a general leader meeting on Tuesday, March 26 beginning at 5:45 p.m., prior to the 4-H Leaders' Association meeting (7:00 p.m.). All General Leaders, or a representative from each club, is asked to attend the meeting. This is a great opportunity to talk with other leaders about a variety of topics. Penny will also present about results from the Youth Thrive Survey and how youth feel about components of our local program.

MEMBER OPPORTUNITIES

WI 4-H ArtBEAT!

March 16, 2024; Camp Upham Woods, Wisconsin Dells, WI 2024 Cost: Registration for youth grades 3-5 is \$60. Additional youth family members (grades 3-5) may attend at a discounted

rate of \$45. Adult registration is \$30 to cover meals and Upham day rates. The Waupaca County 4-H Leaders' Association will reimburse half of the camp registration cost for this youth educational experience.

Register Now: https://24wi4hartbeat.4honline.com

4-H ArtBEAT! is the introductory program for Wisconsin 4-H expressive arts and was created for 4-H members in grades 3-5, their parents and leaders. ArtBEAT! provides an opportunity for youth and their parents to experience different art forms in a camping environment at the Upham Woods Outdoor Learning Center in Wisconsin Dells. ArtBEAT! Track leaders are older 4-H Youth, 4-H Adult Leaders, and staff. The event offers a taste of several arts projects including music, visual arts, communication, and more! Youth participants will rotate through a variety of hands-on sessions held at various sites throughout camp, including outdoors (be sure to dress accordingly). Parents are not required to attend but are encouraged to participate as enrolled volunteers or adult helpers (non-volunteer).

Open Enrollment Summer Camp is Back!

Who: Any youth entering 4th-8th grade for the 2024-2025 school year.



When: July 7-10, 2024, at Upham Woods near WI Dells

This year's schedule will have some changes to make camp exciting for returning youth but many camp favorites like swimming and water carnival will remain the same! Registration will open March 1.

Wisconsin State Fair

If you are interested in exhibiting at the Wisconsin State Fair, August 1-11, you will want to follow the State Fair news and website for competitions https://wistatefair.com/competitions/

Wildlife & Woods Careers & Competition - Virtual Sessions: Designed for middle and high school youth. The next interactive sessions for your family are on February 26, March 25, April 22, & May 20. Free registration is available in your family 4-H Online account under the Events section, The Zoom link will be emailed after the registration is complete. Questions? Email:

wi4hwildlifeforestry@gmail.com

Wildlife & Forestry 4-H Art Contest - It's time for your entries in the art contest. There are 18 categories & four groups: K-5-2 nd grade, 3-6 th grade, 7-9 th grade, & 10th -13th grade. Have fun & share your entries.

Wildlife WHEP & Forestry Contests Dates: March 22 & 23, 2024. Study guides and registration forms for the contest are available. The National WHEP (Wildlife Habitat Education Program) Manual www.whep.org/ & the National Forestry Manual www.4hforestryinvitational.org/ are nationally accredited resources. It's also available at https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/ opportunities/projects/wildlife-whep-wisconsin-4-h-wisconsin-4h-forestry/

4-H PROJECTS

Dog project start up meeting

The first project meeting is coming up on February 19 at 6:30 p.m. at Manawa Elementary School. More details will be mailed to dog project members. If you are on Facebook, ask to join the Waupaca County 4-H Dog Project page.

Rabbit Hopping Informational meeting

Last year was the first time rabbit hopping (described similar to dog agility) was offered. Colleen, the volunteer who led this project, would like to get started earlier this year. If you are at all interested in learning more about rabbit hopping, mark your calendars for an informational meeting and demonstration on Tuesday, Feb. 20th at 6:30 p.m.

Horse Project

Mark your calendars for the next countywide horse project meetings on Monday, February 26 and March 25, at the Manawa Elementary School. Please follow the group on Facebook at Waupaca County Horse and Pony Project for project updates and info.



4-H Horse Association Handbook

The 4-H Horse Association Handbook has now been updated for 2024! The Horse Handbook is located at https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/projects/large-animals/ horse-project/wisconsin-4-h-horse-association/ This is where you find information about state horse events and more.

4-H Shooting Sports

All youth registered in shooting sports MUST work with A STATE 4-H CERTIFIED SHOOTING SPORTS LEADER. 2024 Adult Certification Workshops—Check out the Wisconsin 4 -H website for more information on the 2024 workshops: https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/projects/shootingsports/leader-certification-training-workshops/

<u>2024 Competitive Shoots</u>—For more information go to: <u>https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/projects/shooting-sports/competitive-shoots/</u> Competitive Shoots start in March. Watch for registration information online if interested.

<u>Miscellaneous</u> project opportunity—If you are interested in 1 or 2 small engines, a mini bike, or wooden wood duck houses for a 4-H project, email Penny for contact information. An individual near Waupaca is offering these items to any youth that would like to use them for 4-H project learning.

DAIRY

Waupaca County Dairy Judging

Dairy judging is an excellent opportunity to increase your knowledge of dairy cattle and practice life skills such as communication,



critical thinking, and decision making. Members have the opportunity to participate locally in practice sessions and then compete at Area Animal Science Day. Please contact Penny at the Extension office to let us know of your interest in participating in Dairy Judging and your availability or suggestions for practices. There will also be a dairy judging class at 4-H Super Saturday.

Crowley 4-H Dairy Leadership Award

The James W Crowley 4-H Dairy Leadership Award program provides recognition to youth who have excelled in their dairy project. The award named in honor and memory of James W. Crowley, longtime Extension Dairy Specialist and strong supporter of dairy youth projects. A special engraved medallion will be presented to the outstanding 4-H dairy project member in each county for their accomplishments in 2024. County Award winners are eligible to compete for 15 state-wide awards. State winners will receive plaques and the top three youth in the state competition will each receive \$1,000 awards. Eligibility: 1)Must be currently enrolled in the 4-H Dairy Project and have at least two previous years of membership in it. 2)Must be in 10th-13th grades as of January 1. 3)Should have an outstanding record of involvement and accomplishments in the 4-H Dairy Project. Contact Penny at the Extension office for an application which is due by March 15. A county winner will then be selected and forwarded to the state.

LARGE MARKET ANIMAL

Large Market Animal Update

As a reminder, the 4-H Large Market Animal Committee voted this past spring to pursue becoming a separate 501c3 (rather than being a 4-H chartered group). The committee got the proper approvals and was formed this fall. The new committee name is **Waupaca County Large Animal Inc.** website:

https://waupacacountylargemarketsale.my.canva.site

The following is a list of dates that was shared with us—please mark your calendars.

Mandatory meetings for youth wishing to sell in the Large Animal (beef, sheep, swine) sale are:

- Tuesday, February 6th at 6:30 pm at Weyauwega City Hall
- Saturday, February 10th at 8 am at Weyauwega City Hall
- Thursday, February 15th at 6:30 pm at Lebanon Town Hall

Tag in Meetings (after the mandatory meetings this is where

you get animal tags and other information):

- Saturday, April 6th 9 am to 11 am at Weyauwega City Hall
- Thursday, April 18th 6:30 to 7:30 at Weyauwega City Hall

Large Market Animal Committee Scholarship

Check out the insert in this newsletter for information about this scholarship and others. The 2024 Large Market Animal Committee Scholarship can be found at: <u>https://waupacacountylargemarketsale.my.canva.site</u> All scholarship information is found under the scholarship tab. Large Market Scholarship due March 15.

Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) Update

It is required that all food animal project youth (beef, sheep, swine) complete a YQCA course (either online or in person). YQCA also counts as an educational point for small market animal sale participants (rabbit, poultry, goat). The **YQCA** website is https://yqcaprogram.org/.

Online completion is always an option and costs \$12. This year there will be 2 in person options to complete YQCA:

1. Saturday, March 23 immediately following Super Saturday project day at Manawa Elementary School. Youth can start arriving at 12:30 and the class will start at 12:45. Youth MUST register through the YQCA website above, NOT on the Super Saturday registration form.

2. During the summer Large Market Animal Educational Day. For either class you need to register at https://yqcaprogram.org/ And pay the \$3.00 fee online for the instructor led course.

SMALL MARKET ANIMAL SALE (Rabbit, Poultry, Goat)

The Small Market Animal sale is voluntary, but members or a family member/ guardian representative **MUST** sign up to sell an animal in the Small Market Animal Sale by attending one of the meetings below.

MANDATORY MEETINGS will be held in two places.

- Thursday, March 7, 2024, City Hall, Main St, Weyauwega
- Monday, March 18, 2024, at the Manawa City Hall

Meetings will start at 6:30 p.m.

A zoom option will be available if requested (not recorded) for the March 18 meeting only. If you need to participate by zoom, you need to notify <u>penny.tank@wisc.edu</u> by 3 p.m. on March 18

AGRICULTURE PROJECT CONTESTS/STARTER PROGRAMS

2024 Targhee Sheep Association Starter Flock

The U.S. Targhee Sheep Association (USTSA) will again, be offering a free registered Targhee Starter flock to a deserving youth at the 2024 USTSA National Show and Sale, held July 18-20, 2024, in



South Dakota. The winner must be present to receive the flock and will be awarded one (1) ewe lamb, one (1) yearling ewe, and one (1) brood ewe donated by members of the USTSA. The winner will also receive a \$150 credit for use toward purchase of additional animals at the national sale. Applications, due April 1st, are now available <u>http://www.ustargheesheep.org/</u> Any young person, ages 9-17, as of January 1, 2024, whose family does not raise Targhee sheep may apply.

Wisconsin Dairy Goat Association Share-a-Kid Contest

The contest is open to Wisconsin youth ages 10-17 by January of this year to enter. Entries are accepted Jan.1st until April 1st of 2024. The youth write an essay about why



they would like a goat and how they are going to take care of her and complete an application. They give away 4-6 goats per year. Complete contest details can be found at the following link: <u>https://www.wdga.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/2024-Share-a</u>-Kid.docx.pdf deadline is April 1.

CLUB HAPPENINGS

<u>Casey Lake-</u> They had an outing to the Haunted Mill in Iola and rang bells at Pick N Save over the holidays. Members also made goody bags for Bethany Home residents and held a club pizza party.

Dayton Community– Club members donated a holiday meal and decorated cookies for Foundations for Living. They are planning several club outings in the future such as ice skating. **Friendly Valley–** Members made plans to do holiday caroling and a club Christmas party that included bowling and a meal. **Woodland Badgers**– A Christmas party was held, the club made cards for Green Tree residents, and participated in a Christmas parade. They visited a curling club and learned about the sport.

Secretaries Report

Please remember part of the secretary officer duties, besides keeping accurate records of club business, is to turn a copy of the minutes into the Extension Office. This can be done by mail, fax (715-258-6232) or email: penny.tank@wisc.edu. The club minutes are important for 4-H records and highlights from the minutes are also shared in each 4-H Forecast.

Community Service Opportunity

We received a call from a gentleman planning a **Truck & Tractor Pull at the Fairgrounds, May 17-19**. He started the Wayne Simenson Foundation for the Handicapped Inc. He is looking for community groups to help with parking cars, trash pick up, potentially food sales, and other volunteer activities. Here is a copy of a facebook post about the event with his contact information. He would be happy to share more details with any clubs interested in helping.

Hello Friends, Interested in helping the handicapped? Keep May 17-19 open and come to the Weyauwega Blast. The Wayne Simenson Foundation for the Handicapped is holding a truck and tractor pull with all proceeds going to the American Family Children's Hospital in Madison. Contact me to found out how you can help this cause. Thank you all. Waynesimenson6@gmail.com. 715 498 5566

THANK YOU

• Sarah Burmeister, Lora Korth, Janet Wiechert, Kassidy Ruppel, and Karen & Abbey Acker for your help with Club Officer Training • Dog, horse, large market and small market committee volunteers that have been meeting and planning these countywide projects and educational opportunities.

CONGRATULATIONS

- Katie Johnson, Riley Persells, and Sophie Stueck on becoming new 4-H Ambassadors
- Isabelle Dietzler for your acceptance to attend National 4-H Conference in Washington D.C.
- Trenton Baumgart, Benjamin Froh, Macintyre McNamee, Micah Postel, and Eli Zempel for being accepted to attend Space Camp coming up in April
- Zephaniah Postel, Hailey Burmeister, and Evan Schuelke for being accepted to participate in the American Spirit Educational Experience

MISCELLANEOUS

Annual Waupaca County 4-H Lego Contest

Watch for more information about the 4-H Lego Contest coming up—entries will be due Friday, April 5.





ming, including Title VI, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act requirements



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UW-MADISON EXTENSION

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