



**Marinette County
4-H Newsletter
February, 2025**

Hello 4-H Member, Families, and Volunteers!

February is here, and while the cold and dreary days of winter may still be hanging around, we're keeping our spirits high as we look forward to the warmer weather and exciting events ahead! As we continue to learn, lead, and grow together, let's take a moment to reflect on all the wonderful things the 4-H program provides—connections, experiences, and lasting memories. This month, let's remember to express appreciation for those who support us, whether it's a family member, friend, volunteer, or fellow 4-H member. The power of gratitude is contagious, and a simple "thank you" can brighten someone's day.

We've got some great things lined up in the next few weeks, and months—so keep reading for details on upcoming events, opportunities to get involved, and ways to make the most of your 4-H experience! We're so grateful for each and every one of you, and we're thrilled to continue this journey together.

Stay warm, stay connected, and let's make February a month to remember!

Warmly,

Your 4-H Staff Team,
Aimee, 4-H Educator, and Nancy, 4-H Program Support Staff



**SAVE THE DATE—JUNE 24-27—
CAMP MAROCOSHA AT CAMP BIRD**

Camp Marocosha save the date reminder. 38 counselors have signed up and began training to make this year the best one yet! 4-H Camp MarOcoSha is for youth in grades 3 - 7 at Camp Bird in Crivitz. We work cooperatively with Shawano and Oconto Counties to put on this fun program. Campers will be present **June 24 - 27**. Adult staff applications should be out soon, as well as registration information.



FREE MOVIE

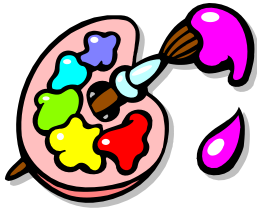
Watch your e-mails and county 4-H Facebook page for more information regarding a date and time.

**SAVE THE DATE—JUNE 6TH—BLIZZARD
DAIRY MONTH**

Event to highlight local 4-H clubs and groups, more information on ticket sales and fundraising opportunities to come.

An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act requirements.

Como empleador que brinda igualdad de oportunidades en el empleo y acción afirmativa (EEO/AA, por sus siglas en inglés), la University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension, proporciona igualdad de oportunidades en el empleo y en sus programas, incluyendo los requisitos del Título VI, Título IX, y de la ley federal para personas con discapacidades en los Estados Unidos (ADA, por sus siglas en inglés) y los requisitos de la Section 504 del Rehabilitation Act.



ART BEAT

March 15-16, 2025—Upham Woods Outdoor Learning Center

\$125 for Youth Members (Tiered pricing \$100-145), \$75 for Adult Volunteers

What is 4-H ArtBEAT!?

- Introduction to Wisconsin 4-H Expressive Arts & Camp/Overnight Experiences
- 4-H Members grades 3-5, parents and leaders
- Try different types of art (visual arts, drama, music, STEM) led by adult volunteers
- Experience camp and stay in cabins with high school counselors

Youth participants will rotate through a variety of hands-on sessions held at various sites throughout camp, including outdoors (be sure to dress accordingly).

Camp check-in will start at 9 AM on Saturday, March 15. The program will end with a brief showcase at 1:45 PM on Sunday, March 16. Departure will be at 2:30 PM on Sunday. For more information about registration and possible state scholarship funding, visit: <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/statewide-events-and-opportunities/art-beat/>

NEVER TOO EARLY TO THINK ABOUT ROYALTY

Any youth, male or female, at least 14 years old and in high school, interested in becoming part of Marinette Co. Royalty can apply. If interested, contact Dorothy Kaminski at 920-897-2316. Applications will be mailed out soon with interviews to be scheduled for May.

Wisconsin AmeriCorps POSITIONS OPEN

Looking for a summer "job" to earn money and build your resume?

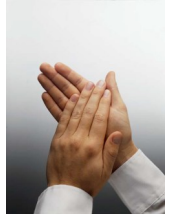
- Get Support while you serve:** Earn \$5,000 in living allowances
- Receive Education Assistance:** Receive nearly \$2,000 in an education award
- Grow Professionally:** Add UW-Madison Extension & AmeriCorps to your career credentials

Positions are available statewide. Find one in a county near you!

4h.extension.wisc.edu/wisconsin4h-ameri-corps

2024 ACHIEVEMENT AND RECOGNITION DAY HELD SUNDAY, JANUARY 26

We would like to thank our hosts, Badger Buds 4-H Club and Kountry Kids 4-H Club, for the wonderful snacks and decorations. Also, thank you to the clubs and families for providing such delicious desserts. Special appreciation goes to the 4-H Queen, Brooke Walters, for handing out awards to the recipients at the Grover Town Hall.



Some of the special honors announced that day included: the James W. Crowley 4-H Dairy Leadership Award winner for 2024 is Mackenzie Carlson, from Merry-Go-Getters 4-H Club. Rookie Boy is Ryan Torzala, from Beaver Four Leaf Clover 4-H Club, and, Rookie Girl is Clara Seefeldt, from Forever Green 4-H Club. 4-H Adult Volunteer Leaders were honored for their years of service, however, one leader, Ember Rickaby of Golden Opportunity 4-H Club, was especially honored with an engraved octagon clover glass trophy for her 55 years of volunteering. Mitchell VanDeWalle, Beaver Four Leaf Clover 4-H Club, received the Outstanding Youth Leader Award. Two leaders received the Volunteers of the Year Award: Margaret Graese, Beaver Four Leaf Clover 4-H Club, and, Julia Lepinski, End of the Trail Club. Friend of 4-H winners were Chad and Tiffany Mursau. Sonny Graese was honored with the Outstanding Alumnus Award. Program books with the complete list of winners is available through the 4-H office. Pictures of the event can be found on the last page of this newsletter.



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

Elections were held during the 4-H Achievement and Recognition Day. Lisa Witak was re-elected as Vice President, Margaret Graese will be the new Secretary, and Julia Lepinski was re-elected as Treasurer.

CO. 4-H LEADERS ASSOC. SCHOLARSHIPS

To be eligible, you must have been in Marinette County 4-H at least four years and be a 4-H graduate of Marinette County or eligible to graduate. Open to high school seniors, freshmen and sophomores in post-secondary education, inc. college, university or technical school and a full-time student. Scholarship applications are available in the Extension office. Deadline: **March 1.**

WI 4-H FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

More information here: <https://wis4hfoundation.org/scholarships/>

The Wisconsin 4-H Foundation will award more than \$20,000 in scholarships to outstanding Wisconsin 4-H members and alumni pursuing higher education in 2025. To be considered for financial support, applications must be postmarked on or before March 1, 2025.

Wisconsin 4-H Foundation scholarships are awarded to students based on demonstrated personal growth through 4-H, development and leadership in 4-H, academic performance and future educational goals.

To be eligible for Wisconsin 4-H Foundation scholarships students must have been a Wisconsin 4-H member for at least three years; should have a grade point average of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale, and be enrolled or planning to enroll at a university, college or technical school during the 2025-2026 academic school year. Scholarship winners from previous years are not eligible to receive a second 4-H Foundation scholarship.

For more information and application requirements, visit <https://wis4hfoundation.org/scholarships/>

WI TOWNS ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP

The WI Towns Association, Rural Mutual Insurance Company & Scott Construction, Inc., will be awarding \$7,000 in scholarships to high school seniors graduating in 2025 from a public or private high school in WI that plan to enroll in a WI public or private college or a university in 2025. The winners are determined by independent judging of an essay contest. The essay should address the topic: "What are 3 top priorities your local town government officials should pursue to improve the quality of life in your community?" Essays must be postmarked by **May 23, 2025**. For more information and an application, visit <https://www.wisctowns.com/resources/scholarship/>

YQCA SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

For certified youth, ranging from high school seniors to age 21, pursuing an agriculture degree or trade. Scholarship applications are open from January 1st – February 17th. Recipients will be announced in May. For more information and an application, visit <https://yqcaprogram.org/local/scholarship-program.php>

4-H TRIPS

Teens interested in attending trips should fill out the Marinette County Sponsored Event Application. First round was due Oct. 1. All information regarding age requirements and trips were included in the leaders packet at the Fair. Following that, applications are due Feb. 1 and applicants will be interviewed at the February 4-H Association Meeting.

ATTENTION: ADULT VOLUNTEERS

We still have lots of volunteers that are in need of completing training. If you re-enrolled but did not receive a confirmation email from UW-Madison with your role descriptions, you are not yet fully approved and need to reach out to us as soon as possible. The 4-H office will let you know what is needed and where to find the site to complete the necessary training(s). Contact the 4-H office at 715-732-7514.

SUMMER ACADEMY

SAVE THE DATE. June 16-19, 2025

<https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/statewide-events-and-opportunities/summer-academy/>

This new Positive Youth Development program will help you discover pathways to your future. Signup to learn what it takes to have a career, or a hobby in several SPARK areas including agriculture, STEM, service, leadership, arts, trades, and many more. There will be fun opportunities to build networks and friendships with folks from all over the state of WI. Summer Academy will be held at the UW-Madison Campus, where youth and adult chaperones will stay at Chadbourne Residence hall. Youth will be participating in a wide variety of track-based activities and seminars. They will be able to visit different locations on Campus and in Madison. They will also have the opportunity to hear from speakers, watch a performance from the 4-H Drama Company, and participate in a variety of fun hands-on activities!

Youth currently in grades 8-11 will be able to register for Summer Academy when registration is open on March 1. The registration will be done in 4HOnline. You can find the registration by going to your youth's profile and clicking on the events tab in 4HOnline. The event will be called "Summer Academy".

SESQUICENTENNIAL/CENTURY FARM AWARDS

The WI State Fair honors farms & homes of 150 & 100 years. Applications are available at the Extension Office. Call Nancy at 715-732-7514. Deadline: **March 1**.

ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

General leaders, please check with your group to make sure everyone is registered. New members must join by May 1 in order to exhibit at the Fair.

TREES AND SHRUBS AVAILABLE

The Menominee Co. Conservation District is again offering for sale trees & shrubs, along with other supplies. Ordering is open until April 1st. Pick up will be at the Menominee Co Rd Commission Stephenson on Fri. May 2 from 1-5 pm and Sat. May 3 from 9-11 am or Tractor Supply Marinette on Saturday May 3 10-12. To see what is for sale and to order on-line visit <http://www.menomineecd.com/> & click on 'tree sale.'

The Dickinson County Conservation District is also doing a tree sale. Orders can be placed online, in-person at our office at 420 N. Hooper St, Kingsford, MI 49802, or over the phone by calling (906) 774-1550 ext. 103. Deadline to order is April 4, 2025. For more information and for an order form, visit <https://www.dickinsoncd.org/shop>



Neighborhood Forest
giving trees to children

Join Us in Celebrating Earth Week: Register for a Free Tree for Your Child! This spring, we are thrilled to once again announce our participation in Neighborhood Forest's 16th Annual Free Tree Program as part of Earth Week celebrations April 16-22!

We are excited to be participating in this program that teaches youth about the importance of environmental stewardship through the magic & wonder of planting & watching trees grow.

Please fill out the following online registration form by March 15th and receive a free tree (6-12" in size) during Earth Week. The tree species will be announced in early April. Register to receive a free tree for Earth Day to plant with your child: <https://www.neighborhoodforest.org/parent-registration/?school=26435>

For the purpose of the program please indicate your child's teacher to be the 4-H Program Educator, and Neighborhood Forest Coordinator Aimee Elkins

Trees will be delivered to us and we will arrange to get the trees in the hands of your children on or around Earth Day (April 22nd) via pick up. Instructions on planting and caring for the trees, along with species details, will be emailed a few days before the tree delivery and will also be accessible in the "Resources" section on the Neighborhood Forest website. For further questions, please check out the 'Parent FAQs.' Thank you for your support and participation. For more information about this program, please visit www.neighborhoodforest.org or www.facebook.com/neighborhoodforest

WILDLIFE & WOODS SERIES. Wildlife & Woods Explorations are suggested for grades K-5 through elementary school youth and their families. The sessions will be interactive and will include wildlife, forestry, wildlife art and more. Wildlife & Woods Careers & Competitions Series are suggested for middle school through high school youth and their families. The sessions will be interactive and will include guest speakers talking about careers, information about wildlife and forestry competitions and resources available to learn more. Registration for these events is now open in 4Honline!

Wildlife & Woods
EXPLORATIONS VIRTUAL SERIES

Register via 4Honline
wi.4honline.com

FREE SERIES: FOR YOUTH GRADES K-5
7:00PM-7:45PM

JAN. 29, 2025
FEB. 26, 2025
MAR. 26, 2025
APRIL 23, 2025

A circular graphic with a dark blue background. It features a large green tree on the left, a white deer on the right, and a white rabbit at the bottom. The scene is set in a forest with green hills and a white path.

To learn more about virtual learning opportunities, please visit 4h.extension.wisc.edu/vlc

An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act requirements.

Wildlife & Woods
CAREERS & COMPETITION VIRTUAL SERIES

Register via 4Honline
wi.4honline.com

FREE SERIES: FOR YOUTH GRADES 6-12
7:00PM-7:45PM

JAN. 27, 2025
FEB. 24, 2025
MAR. 24, 2025
APRIL 28, 2025

A circular graphic with a dark blue background. It features a large green tree on the left, a white deer on the right, and a white rabbit at the bottom. The scene is set in a forest with green hills and a white path.

To learn more about virtual learning opportunities, please visit 4h.extension.wisc.edu/vlc

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ANIMAL SCIENCE

COUNTY FAIR WEIGH-IN DATES

Beef weigh in will be March 15 from 9-11am (must be on grounds by 11am). Sheep/goat weigh in May 10 from 9-11am (must be on grounds by 11 am). All will be at the fairgrounds in Wausaukee.

Swine pictures due to marinettefair@yahoo.com or printed and given to Lisa Witak by 11 am on May 10. Swine pictures must include the exhibitor in at least one picture with the hogs. Must be able to read the tags in the ears of the animals.

Tags are \$3 per animal and will be an RFID tag and another blue tag from the fair.

Anyone not receiving the livestock emails should provide their email address to Lisa at marinettefair@yahoo.com

The next meeting is Monday, February 3, 2025 at 7 pm at Grover Town Hall.

2025 FAIR CHANGES FOR LIVESTOCK

This year, both tags required for your animals will be provided from the fair. The cost for tags will be \$3.00 per animal (so no more paying for another tag if you do lose one). One tag will be an RFID tag and the other will be the regular tag. If your animal already has a farm tag, it will then have 3 tags instead of 2.

All auction animals will need to be brought in Wednesday of fair week, time is still to be determined. Other animals may be brought in at this time as well, but only auction animals are required on Wednesday for 2025. All non-auction animals must be in place by noon on Thursday of fair week. Beef show will happen on Thursday afternoon at 12:30pm. Rabbits will immediately follow the beef show.

There will be more changes that have been approved, but they won't start until 2026.

One change for 2026 is that all auction exhibitors will be required to volunteer at least 3 hours at the fairgrounds as documented by a fair board member or designee. While this is required for 2026, it is highly encouraged for 2025.

We will discuss all of these things at our next meeting on February 3, 2025, but I wanted to give you all a heads up. The meeting will be at 7:00pm at Grover Town Hall in February and beef tags will be handed out.

TYLER THIEL MEMORIAL MEAT GOAT ESSAY

A Boer goat doeling will be gifted to a 4-H member in Shawano, Marinette, Oconto, Outagamie or Waupaca Co. To qualify for this goat, you must show it in the 2025 county fair. Doe must be bred to a meat breed buck at appropriate breeding age. One of its kids must be shown at the first fair it is eligible for. Handwritten or typed essay is to be 1-2 pgs long and postmarked by Feb. 28, 2025, mailed to Mike/Shirley Thiel, W4933 Co. Rd G, Black Creek WI 54106. Questions needing to be answered: Tell about other livestock you and your family raise; do you have goats now; if so, breed, age, how many, how cared for and plan for the herd; why are you interested in goats; why do you show or want to show goats at the fair; explain your facility; and explain how you will take care of this goat. For an entry form, contact the 4-H office at 715-732-7514 or e-mail nancy.servais@uwex.edu

MINUTES

Marinette County Leader's Association 1/26/25

The meeting was called to order at Achievement Day at Grover Town Hall at 1:38 pm by Jennie Pillath. Motion to approve the agenda by Barb Kolosowski, second by Julia Lepinski. Carried

Motion to approve the secretary's report as printed in the newsletter by Barb Kolosowski, second by Wally Hitt. Carried. Motion to approve the treasurer's report by Lisa Witak, second by Anne Biernasz. Carried.

Julia Lepinski nominated Lisa Witak for Vice President. Motion by Julia Lepinski, second by Anne Biernasz to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Lisa Witak. Carried

Lisa Witak nominated Margaret Graese for Secretary. Motion by Lisa Witak, second by Anne Biernasz to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Margaret Graese. Carried

Lisa Witak nominated Julia Lepinski for Treasurer. Motion by Anne Biernasz, second by Lisa Witak to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Julia Lepinski. Carried

Next meeting will be at Crivitz Fire Station on 2/15/25 at 6 pm with a scholarship committee meeting to be held that date at 5:30 pm.

Motion to adjourn at 1:50 pm by Lisa Witak, second by Dorothy Kaminski. Carried

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Witak

2025
4-H County Activities & Special Projects
Volunteer Sign-Up - Due February 28

YOUTH and ADULTS—As you plan your new 4-H year, please consider sharing your time and talent in one or more of our county activities and special projects. Please sign up to serve in your area of interest for the coming year. Whether you are new or are already helping in an area, please complete this sign-up sheet. If there is more than one person to a sheet, please put name next to choices. Committee sign-ups are on an annual basis. You need to sign up each year to be on the Committee.

Name(s) _____ Club _____
Phone _____ E-mail _____

Please put your name next to the group you'd like to help with & return to the Extension Office. Limit of three (3) committees per person.

___ **Awards and Trips** - provides leadership in promotion of 4-H trips, works with Leaders Association and the County 4-H Office to determine candidate selection process. Meets February and October or as needed.

___ **Raffle/County Fundraising** - develops annual fundraising plan, makes recommendations on and helps coordinate and promote planned fundraisers.

___ **Food Stand** - provides leadership in developing 4-H food stand policies and procedures, recommends menu items, orders food and supplies, helps to evaluate, etc. Meets April-September, 1-2x/month as needed.

___ **Scholarship** - reviews scholarship procedures, assists in selection of scholarship winners.

___ **Royalty** - Prepares candidates, helps with all aspects of contest, secures judges, facilitates Royalty coronation at the Fair, awards & follow up. Meets April-August.

Yes No I am interested in serving as a Committee Chair or Co-Chair. List Committee: _____

4-H ACTIVITY COORDINATOR or COMMITTEE — Plan and implement special county activities. Can be youth or adult or youth/adult team. Duties include assisting with promotion and coordination of event, selecting judges, event follow up.

___ Speaking Contest & Music Fest (normally held in February/March)

___ Drama & Variety and Demonstration Contest (normally held in April)

___ Super Saturday/Project 101 Day

___ Fair help (office or at fair) (August)

___ Other. Please list: _____

Thank you! Please return to the Extension Office by February 28th.

**WINTER LEADERSHIP CAMP
HELD JANUARY 3-5 AT SPENCER LAKE CAMP IN WAUPACA**

Three youth from Marinette County 4-H attended: Emilie Gerken,
Sam Gilbert and Sadie Kahles.



**SOME OF THE AWARD WINNERS AT THE 2024 MARINETTE COUNTY 4-H
ACHIEVEMENT AND RECOGNITION DAY
HELD SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 2025 AT GROVER TOWN HALL**



**Friend of 4-H Award
Chad & Tiffany Mursau**

