



**Marinette County
4-H Newsletter
February, 2026**

Extension Marinette County
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Dear 4-H Families:

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. 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!

Your Marinette County 4-H Team,
Sarah and Nancy

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2025 4-H ACHIEVEMENT AND RECOGNITION DAY HELD JANUARY 11TH

We would like to thank our hosts, Golden Opportunity and Middle Inlet Moonshiners 4-H Clubs, for organizing the hall and the wonderful food. Also, thank you to the clubs and families for providing such delicious desserts. Special appreciation goes to the 4-H Queen, Madison Fronsee, and 4-H Princess, Corndelia Peterson, for handing out awards to the recipients at the Grover Town Hall.

Some of the special honors announced that day were: the James W Crowley 4-H Dairy Leadership Award went to Breanna Klimek, with Merry-Go-Getters 4-H Club; Rookie Boy is Easton Anderson, Merry-Go-Getters 4-H Club, and Rookie Girl is Everly Thoreson, Beaver Four Leaf Clover 4-H Club. Leaders received recognition for serving as adult volunteers one year, and every five years following. Of special achievement was Jennie Pillath, Beaver Four Leaf Clover Club, who was recognized for serving 40 years, and Barbara Kolosowski, Pike River Club, for attaining 45 years. Other distinguished awards presented were: Outstanding Youth Leader was Grant Van De Walle, Volunteer of the Year went to Jennie Pillath, Friend of 4-H to Patterson Farms, and Outstanding Alumnus went to Koreen Gardon. For a complete listing of all awards given, contact the 4-H office for a booklet. Congrats everyone!!!

LOOK INSIDE FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION.



The University of Wisconsin Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming in compliance with state and federal law.

IMPORTANT: CHANGES HAVE BEEN MADE TO RECORD BOOK SHEETS

There will no longer be individual project sheets to fill out (the exception would be the 4-H members who are in the fair livestock auction as they will still fill out the animal project sheets). The new sheets are: Table of Contents, My Activity Sheet, Marinette Co.4-H Project Sheet and Marinette Co.4-H Year Summary. Copies are attached for your reference. Thank you to those who met to review and update the record book sheets: Anne Biernasz, Suz Deschane, Deb Heitman, Laura Kahles, Dorothy Kaminski, Julia Lepinski and Jennie Pillath.

WISCONSIN 4-H ARTBEAT!



The graphic is a promotional image for the Wisconsin 4-H Art Beat 2026. It features a green background with white text. At the top is a photo of children at a table, followed by the title 'Art Beat' in large white letters. Below the title is a calendar icon with the text 'March 13-15, 2026'. Underneath that is a location pin icon with the text 'Upham Woods Outdoor Learning Center'. At the bottom is a person icon with the text 'Grades 3-5'. In the bottom left corner are the UW-Madison Extension logo and the 4-H logo. In the bottom right corner is a QR code and a 'LEARN MORE' button.

REMINDER that registration is still open for ArtBeat 2026! Don't miss the opportunity to explore visual arts, drama, music, and STEAM through hands-on activities and experiences.

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 and adult chaperones

Visit and to register before Feb. 8th:

<https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/.../statewide.../art-beat/>



The logo for STEAM GAZE is centered on a light gray background. It features a large, stylized text 'STEAM GAZE' with 'STEAM' in blue and 'GAZE' in pink. To the right of the text is a colorful, abstract watercolor-style cloud in shades of blue, green, yellow, and pink. Below the text is the tagline 'Exploring Art and Science'. At the bottom of the logo is the UW-Madison Extension logo, which includes a shield with a 'W' and a 4-H clover. The text 'UW-MADISON EXTENSION' is also present.

STEAM GAZE

STEAM GAZE is a full-day, hands-on learning experience for curious and creative youth in grades 3–5, where art and science come together through interactive workshops led by educators and mentors.

Participants will explore a variety of STEAM topics, including chemistry, environmental science, theater, music, and visual arts, while engaging in activities designed to spark curiosity, creativity, and problem-solving skills. Youth will be supported throughout the day by professional staff and older 4-H youth leaders. STEAM GAZE is open to both 4-H members and non-4-H youth.

DATE: April 25, 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Marathon County Extension Office, Wausau, WI.

COST: \$10 per youth participant. Low-cost registration helps ensure this opportunity is accessible to all families.

Youth must attend with an adult (parent, club leader, teacher, Extension staff, etc.). There is no cost for adult attendees.

REGISTRATION INFO: A link for registration will be posted [here](#) in late February.



SAVE THE DATE!

Clover Connect

Idea sharing zooms for 4-H volunteers and older youth

Hands to Larger Service: Community Service Ideas

Sunday, Feb 22 @ 7 p.m.
Monday, Feb 23 @ 12 Noon

Making 4-H Meetings Fun: Bringing Laughter & Learning to 4-H Meetings

Sunday, Mar 22 @ 7 p.m.
Monday, Mar 23 @ 12 Noon



For More Info:



CLOVER CONNECT

Hands to Larger Service: Community Service Ideas.
Sunday, Feb 22 at 7 p.m. & Monday, Feb 23 at Noon
(same content will be repeated).

Making 4-H Meetings Fun: Bringing Laughter and Learning to 4-H Meetings

Sunday, Mar 22 at 7 p.m. & Monday, Mar 23 at Noon
(same content will be repeated)

Register for one or both topics by visiting <https://go.wisc.edu/pbm474>. Both sessions will be recorded, and resources will be shared with those who sign up!

Zoom connection information will be shared closer to each session date.



Wildlife & Woods

EXPLORATIONS VIRTUAL SERIES

FREE SERIES: FOR YOUTH GRADES K-5

7:00PM-7:45PM

JAN. 28, 2026

FEB. 25, 2026

MAR. 25, 2026

APRIL 29, 2026

MAY 20, 2026

Register via
4HOnline
wi.4honline.com



 Positive Youth Development Institute
DIVISION OF EXTENSION
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



Wildlife & Woods

CAREERS & COMPETITION VIRTUAL SERIES

FREE SERIES: FOR YOUTH GRADES 6-13

7:00PM-7:45PM

JAN. 26, 2026

FEB. 23, 2026

MAR. 23, 2026

APRIL 27, 2026

MAY 18, 2026

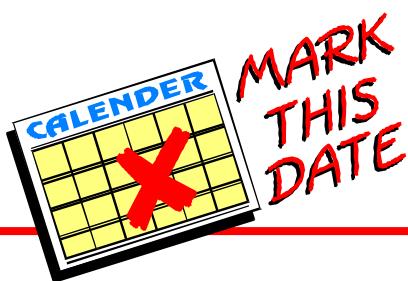
Register via
4HOnline
wi.4honline.com



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. Register here:

<https://26wildlifeexplorations.4honline.com/> **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. Register here: <https://26wildlifecareers.4honline.com/>



4-H CAMP MAROCOSHA JUNE 23-26, 2026

Camp Registration: Opens in March. Watch your email for details and the registration link.



THE 2025-2026 WISCONSIN 4-H PROGRAM BOOKLET IS NOW AVAILABLE

Find out about all the 4-H State Programs and Educational Experiences available to you.

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



SUMMER ACADEMY

UW-Madison: June 14-18. This Positive Youth Development program helps youth explore career and hobby pathways in various fields like agriculture, STEM, leadership, arts, and more. You'll also have the chance to build friendships and networks with people from across Wisconsin. For youth in grades 8-11.

A variety of track-based activities, seminars, campus tours, performances, and hands-on experiences. Summer Academy will be held at the UW-Madison Campus, where youth and adult chaperones will stay at Dejope 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!

Registration Information: March 6 – April 26, 2026 through 4HOnline. Fee: \$150 per youth covers lodging, meals, transportation, activities, and more.

State Scholarships available to reduce costs (included in 4HOnline registration). For more information, visit <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/statewide-events-and-opportunities/summer-academy/>

NEVER TOO EARLY TO START THINKING ABOUT 4-H ROYALTY

Royalty is open to all females and males starting 9th grade September 2026 and it's never to early to think about it.

To reflect the changes to the Fair judging schedule, the Royalty Committee has made a few changes as well, such as to when applications will be due, when Coronation will be held and when duties will start.

The first change is the deadline for applications to the committee will be July 1st, 2026.

Interviews will still be held during the month of July.

The second change will be a dinner on the first weekend of August with candidates, family members, judges, committee members and 4-H staff. During the dinner the new royalty will be crowned.

The third change will be duties starting the weekend before the fair. The Saturday of vet science judging.

The committee is still planning to have a meeting in early June for anyone interested or has questions.

Keep watching your newsletter for dates. For more information, please contact Dorothy Kaminski, Chair of the Royalty Committee, at 920-897-2316.



CO. 4-H LEADERS ASSOC. SCHOLARSHIPS

To be eligible, you must have been in 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. Up to five scholarships, in an amount of \$750 each will be awarded to deserving youth (not necessarily given every year.) Scholarship applications are available in the Extension office. Deadline: **March 1**.

**"4-H IS A COMMUNITY OF YOUNG
PEOPLE ACROSS AMERICA WHO
ARE LEARNING LEADERSHIP,
CITIZENSHIP AND LIFE SKILLS"**



YQCA scholarships are available. They are due February 15! Last year, of the 7 scholarships awarded, Wisconsin youth received 3. <https://yqcaprogram.org/local/2026-scholarship-program.php>

An active YQCA certification is required!

2026 WI 4-H SCHOLARSHIPS

Each year, Wisconsin 4-H recognizes outstanding students in our communities with scholarships that celebrate dedication, leadership, and achievements in 4-H. We're excited to announce that this year we will be awarding more than \$20,000 in scholarships to outstanding Wisconsin 4-H members and alumni.

Applications for eligible high school seniors and 4-H alumni opened on Jan. 1, 2026. To apply, applicants must:

- Have been a Wisconsin 4-H member for at least three years
- Have a grade point average of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale
- Be enrolled or planning to enroll at a university, college, or technical school during the 2026-2027 academic school year
- Have not received a Wisconsin 4-H Collegiate Scholarship

For the application form, specific scholarship information, and complete instructions on how to apply, visit <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/wisconsin-4-h-scholarships/>.

Any members of your family who meet this criteria are encouraged to apply! Applications must be received electronically by no later than 11:59 p.m. Central Time on March 1, 2026. Applicants who are awarded scholarships will be notified via email by mid May.



MALE RABBIT NEEDS HOME

Seven month old Rex male rabbit, with cage and feed, is looking for a new home. If interested, call Wally at 715-735-6988.



MINUTES

Marinette County 4-H Leaders Association Meeting January 11, 2026 During Achievement Day Grover Town Hall

The meeting was called to order at the Grover Town Hall at 1:15 PM by Jennie Pillath. List of attendees not taken but had around 50 people.

Motion made to approve the agenda by Barb Kolosowski, second by Julia Lepinski. Carried.

Motion made to approve the secretary's report by Anne Biernasz, second by Sue Deschane. Carried.

Motion made to approve the treasurer's report by Wally Hitt, second by Barb Kolosowski. Carried

Elections held:

Barb Kolosowski nominated Margaret Graese for Secretary. Motion made by Julia Lepinski for Margaret Graese to be Secretary and second by Barb Kolosowski. No one for President.

Updates were provided for the various Committee reports.

- Royalty
 - Talked through changes.

Old Business:

- Record Books
 - Motion made for approval of new record books by Anne Biernasz, second by Sue Deschane.
- Movie
 - Free movie (New Aviator) in March (Date TBD) and includes \$5.00 coupon for concessions.

Next meeting will be Monday, February 16, 2026, at the Crivitz Fire Department at 6:00 pm.

Motion to adjourn at 1:35 PM by Julia Lepinski, second by Sue Deschane. Carried

Respectfully Submitted on behalf of Dorothy Kaminski.

2026
4-H County Activities & Special Projects
Volunteer Sign-Up - Due February 27

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.

____ **Record Book** - Helps update current project sheets and forms.

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 27th.

Table of Contents

Page No.

*Be sure to add all pictures and clippings to the table of contents after listed projects.

My 4-H Activity Sheet for 20____

Name: _____ Club: _____

Year in Club Work including this year: _____ Grade in school: _____
(As of Sept. 1 of 4-H Year)

Number of meeting held by my club this year: _____ Number I attended: _____

List one activity on each line. Members must actually participate to receive credit.

4-H CLUB ACTIVITIES (Must have title or explanation)

MONTH of activity

Club Parade Unit: _____

Demonstration: _____

Speech/Report: _____

Recreation: _____

Music: _____

Drama: _____

Conservation: _____

Health/Safety: _____

Community Service: _____

Community Service: _____

Community Service: _____

Club Tour: _____

Club Fair: _____

Club Trip: _____

Picnic/Potluck: _____

Fund Raiser: _____

Fund Raiser: _____

Club Achievement Program: _____

Officer/Community Member Held: _____

Other: _____

Other: _____

Other: _____

Other: _____

Other: _____

4-H COUNTY ACTIVITIES

Performance (speech, music, drama etc.): _____

County Trip: _____

Food Stand: _____

County Camp: _____

Fair: _____

Fund Raiser: _____

Dairy Foods Promotion/Window Display: _____

4H Promotion/Window Display: _____

Other: _____

Other: _____

Other: _____

4-H DISTRICT, STATE NATIONAL ACTIVITIES

State Fair Exhibitor/Participant: _____

State 4-H Youth Conference: _____

State Show (Horse, Dog, Livestock etc.): _____

District Winter Camp: _____

National Washington Focus Trip: _____

National 4-H Congress: _____

National 4-H Conference: _____

Space Camp: _____

Advanced Space Camp: _____

American Spirit Experience: _____

Summer Academy: _____

National 4-H Dairy Conference: _____

Winter Leadership Camp: _____

Wisconsin 4-H Key Award: _____

Golden Clover Award: _____

Fall Forum: _____

Shooting Sports Competition: _____

Other: _____

Other: _____

Other: _____

Marinette County 4-H Project Sheet

Project: _____ Year in project: _____

Estimate total time spend on project: _____

Exhibit Record

Total # items displayed: _____

Total \$ Premium: _____

What did you like or dislike about judging? _____

Did you complete a demonstration or talk on this project? If so, please explain: _____

Why did you choose this project? _____

Marinette County 4-H Year Summary

4-H Year 20____ - 20____

My projects this year were: _____

These are my goals in 4-H with my projects and my club: _____

What county activity did you like best and why?

Which club activities did you like best and why? _____

Story

Tell what you did this year in 4-H and what you learned. Add as much detail as you would like, but include the following:

1. Did you achieve your 4-H goals? Why or why not?
2. What challenges did you face and how did you overcome them?
3. What accomplishment were you most proud of this year?

Story continued: