



# 4-H Connections Newsletter

July/August 2026

## Educator's Corner

THERE'S STILL TIME TO SIGN UP FOR 4-H CAMP!

4-H Camp is more than just a few days away from home – it's a chance for youth to build friendships, gain confidence, develop leadership skills, try new activities, and create lifelong memories. Campers experience outdoor adventures, team-building activities, campfires, games, crafts, and so much more in a supportive and encouraging environment.

Many youth leave camp with stronger communication skills, greater independence, and a sense of belonging that lasts long after camp ends. Whether it's their first year or their fifth, camp offers opportunities for growth, fun, and unforgettable experiences.

We would love to have your child join us this summer! Additional camp details, dates, registration information, and forms can be found on our website: <https://outagamie.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-camp/>



### NEXT LEADERS MEETING:

Monday, August 31 | Center Town Hall | 7:00 pm

All leader meetings are open to ALL 4-H youth and adult leaders. We encourage regular attendees to bring someone new from your club each month. This is a great way to meet others and grow as an organization!

6:30 pm: Snacks provided by Fast Trackers, New Horizons, Wolf River Beavers

Agenda items: Record Books and Enrollment Information



Extension  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON  
OUTAGAMIE COUNTY

3365 W Brewster St  
Appleton, WI 54914  
920-832-5123

[outagamie.extension.wisc.edu](https://outagamie.extension.wisc.edu)

# Calendar

Note: Not all dates are listed on this page! Please make sure you read the newsletter, and check your email so you don't miss anything!

## July

- 3 Extension Outagamie County CLOSED for Independence Day
- 6 Registration DUE for Summer Camp**
- 7 Cloverbud Day Camp | Extension Office | 8:00 am - 4:00 pm
- 15 Adventure Day Camp | Extension Office | 8:00 am - 4:00 pm
- 21 Art Day Camp | Extension Office | 8:00 am - 4:00 pm
- 29 Executive Leaders Association Meeting | Center Town Hall | 6:45 pm

## August

- 1 September/October 4-H Connections Newsletter Articles DUE**
- 2-5 4-H Base and Outpost Camp | Army Lake Camp, East Troy
- 6-16 Wisconsin State Fair | Milwaukee
- 15 Record books DUE to club main leader**
- 15 Program Committee Sign-up DUE**
- 31 Leaders Association Meeting | Center Town Hall | 7:00 pm
- 22 Shooting Sports Archery Fun Shoot | Memorial Park, Combined Locks | 8:00 - 10:00 am
- 31 End of 2026 4-H Project Year

## September

- 7 Extension Outagamie County CLOSED for Labor Day
- 15 Program Committee Budgets DUE
- 24 4-H Leaders Banquet | Holidays Pub and Grill

# Outreach

## 4-H Outreach Events

The outreach committee is looking for volunteers to help! Please contact Lisa Sprangers at [sprangerslisa@gmail.com](mailto:sprangerslisa@gmail.com).

Tough Kid Challenge on October 3 from 8:30 am - 1:30 pm at Highlands Elementary School in Appleton. We need members to help in many ways:

- Promoting Outagamie County 4-H
- Set up/take down
- Bringing small, trained animals that are leashed or penned
- Wearing costumes
- Making a craft or project
- Watching Milk-the-Cow
- Showing off any skills or projects

Greenville Movie Night - TBD - please let Lisa know if you would like more information when available.



# Project Updates

## Record Books

Due to your Main Leader by August 15 or date requested by the Main Leader.

### Two Options

- EZ Form – Fulfills the Record Book requirement but does NOT qualify for awards.
- Record Book – Can be nominated for county awards

### Who does a 4-H Record Book?

- Each 4-H member in grades 3-13 is highly encouraged to do a 4-H Record Book every year.
- Cloverbuds may complete the special 4-H Cloverbud Record Book.
- 4-H EZ Record Book Form is also available. The EZ Form is NOT eligible for awards.

### Why do a 4-H Record Book?

- The 4-H Record Book is a valuable part of the 4-H program.
- This book will be a record of your activities, challenges, and accomplishments, as well as documentation of what you have learned throughout your project work and club year.
- Your record book will also help others to know and understand you and to evaluate your progress and achievements.
- It gives you the opportunity to be recognized on the club and county levels.
- Over the years, your record books will reflect your growth in project work, as well as in leadership, citizenship, and community service. That information will be extremely useful to you when completing future awards, scholarship, college, and/or job applications.
- Record books will help you to develop skills in goal setting, planning, organizing, evaluating, and writing.

### Outagamie County 4-H Record Book Guide

- This guide gives tips on completing your record book.
- The Record Book Awards and Recognition Committee, your club leader, and other 4-H youth may also provide assistance.

If you have questions about 4-H record books or record book awards, please contact the Awards and Recognition Committee:

Rose Rynish – [prynishfam@gmail.com](mailto:prynishfam@gmail.com) – 920-450-9653

Tammy Stille – [tammy@stilles.org](mailto:tammy@stilles.org) – 920-997-0363

Lori Vandenberg – [vandenbergfamily7@gmail.com](mailto:vandenbergfamily7@gmail.com) – 920-378-8117W

Shawn Bergman – [baumgartmary@gmail.com](mailto:baumgartmary@gmail.com) – 920-973-8668

<https://outagamie.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-youth-development/4-h-member-resources/>

### Cloverbud Record Books

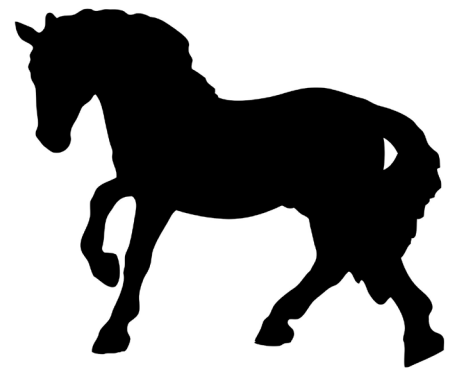
Record books are a great way for you to archive your 4-H activities each year. They can be completed as simply or elaborately as you'd prefer. Consider adding photos to make a special book to look back on each year! These are not turned in for County Recognition.

Note: Record book covers are available at the Extension office for \$2.



## After Fair Clinic Road Map

- July 2: Open Ride
- July 9: Expo Practice, Allie Dawn
- July 16: Liberty 1, Pending Interest, Kelsey Skenandore
- July 23: Liberty 12, Pending Interest, Kelsey Skenandore
- July 30: Open Ride/Trail
- August 6: Expo Practice, Allie Dawn
- August 13: Open Ride
- August 20: Open Ride
- August 27: Open Ride
- September 3: Expo Practice, Allie Dawn
- September 10: Open Ride



# Volunteer Leaders

## County Program Committees

Adult and Youth Leaders can serve on a Program Committee. **Adults must complete volunteer requirements in order to serve on a committee.** The role of the Outagamie County 4-H Program Committees is to provide overall leadership to specific project areas and their related events and activities. Consider serving on a program committee for 2026- 2027. Sign up form is on page 13. Sign ups are due August 15. **You may select up to 3 committees.**

Standing Committees must consist of at least three committee members (youth leaders are encouraged to participate), must submit a budget (even if zero money is being requested), and must submit an educational plan of action for the following year.

<https://bit.ly/2026ProgramCommitteeSignup>

NOTE TO CURRENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS: If you are currently on a 4-H Program Committee and wish to continue, you need to submit a form or sign up or your name will be taken off of the current list. Sign-up by August 15.

## Volunteer Development Training

We aim to offer quality programming for our youth and volunteers. Approved volunteers complete the annual online volunteer application <https://wi.4honine.com> and HireRight background check (every 2 years). First year volunteers must take Grow Green as a county requirement.

Enrollment and re-enrollment start in September.

For more information about volunteer trainings, please visit the website:

<https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/resources/volunteer-resources/training-for-volunteers/>

## Resource Leader Update 2026-2027

Resource Leaders are approved volunteers who assist the 4-H program to broaden and strengthen county 4-H projects and/or activities to increase opportunities, and involve a broader volunteer base to support 4-H.

These leaders are available to contact for assistance with questions about 4-H projects.

Starting in September 2026, Resource Leader will no longer be an option when enrolling. Instead, interested leaders will submit a registration through a county designed Google form. More information to come!

# Upcoming Events

## Pumpkin/Sunflower Contest

The Pumpkin & Sunflower Contest will be held on October 8. Participants will have their pumpkin weighed and sunflower measured at the contest. Reminder to members that obtained seeds for the Big Pumpkin and Giant Sunflower contest, you must use the seeds provided. The variety of seeds ordered can produce pumpkins weighing approximately up to a maximum of 200 pounds. Pumpkins that do not appear to be from the distributed seeds will be disqualified and not weighed.

## Register NOW for Summer Camp!

August 2 - 5: Summer Camp (grades 3-8), Army Lake Camp  
**Registration DUE July 6!**

Summer Camp is Sunday, August 2 through Wednesday, August 5 at Army Lake Camp in East Troy, WI. Base Camp is for youth in grades 3-6, and Outpost Camp is for youth in grades 7-8.

For more information and registration for camp, please visit our website under the 4-H Camp tab.  
<https://outagamie.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-camp/>

# Bits & Pieces

## Chartered Groups and Clubs

All of our chartered groups and clubs must submit the annual authorization and supporting documents to the Extension office by July 30. This completes the charter process, and ensures your group or club is approved to use the 4-H name and emblem. Please contact Alicia with any questions or concerns at 920-832-5127 or [alicia.schroederhaag@wisc.edu](mailto:alicia.schroederhaag@wisc.edu).

<https://bit.ly/4aoEHLL>

## Friends of 4-H Nomination Form

Has someone made a big difference in your 4-H life? Consider nominating them for the Friend of 4-H Award!

This can be someone who extensively helped you with a 4-H project or maybe someone that you see helping with a lot of 4-H projects and activities. These are the type of people we want to recognize for their continued devotion to 4-H Youth Development Programs.

To be considered for the award, nominations need to be in by August 1 of the current year. Contact any Outagamie County 4-H Executive Board Member (info found in 4-H Family Handbook).

The awards will be given out at the 4-H Leaders Banquet in the fall.

# CPF Scholarship Winners

## *Abigail Voster*

Abigail has been in 4-H for five years as a member of Smile Awhile 4-H Club. During this time, Abby participated in the Foods and Woodworking projects. Her community service projects were making blankets, cat toys and cards. Abby provided her leadership skills as club secretary and vice president. She helped with the club's educational booth, club planter, worked in the Dairy Bar, and volunteered in the food booth for Little Chute CheeseFest.

As a requirement for this scholarship, each applicant must write two essays that best answer the questions: What skills have you learned from 4-H? How do you think your 4-H experience will benefit your further education and beyond?

Abby wrote that because of her time on the leadership team for her club, she has become more confident in leadership skills. She also added that time management is an important skill in any college setting. She quickly learned that she could not put off her 4-H fair projects as it became too rushed at the end. Congratulations and best wishes as you begin your Veterinary classes at Fox Valley Technical College.



## *Calen Plamann*

Calen Plamann has been in 4-H since birth. He is a fourth-generation 4-H member. His great grandfather was one of the founding leaders of B-Square 4-H Club. Calen has experienced projects through 4-H in many areas such as Woodworking, Dairy, Shooting Sports, Dog, Horse and every year in Aerospace/Mechanical Science. He assisted with the Lara Plamann Memorial Horse Show, as a community service project, for more than 10 years. Other community service events included Fright Night, bell ringing, Dairy Bar, and Dog Show set up and take down. He held two officer positions and participated in various Horse events, demonstrations, dog shows, basketball tournaments, and rocket launches.



Calen mentioned in his essay that 4-H helped him develop better interpersonal and group communication skills through multiple activities and projects. He also mentioned that being in 4-H from a young age has set him up for success in his future education and leadership roles. Congratulations and best wishes at Marquette University and the U.S. Marine Corps.

# CPF Scholarship Winners

## *Dylan Leitermann*

Dylan Leitermann has been a member of B-Square 4-H Club for eleven years. Dylan was involved in many 4-H projects including Horse, Dogs, Vegetables, Flowers, Photography, and Mechanical Science to name a few. Dylan was very active with the club's fundraisers, Fright Night, bell ringing, Dairy Bar, and repainting benches at the fairgrounds. At the county level, Dylan was a youth committee member on the county and state Horse Project Board as well as the county Dog Project Board. He has participated in the Pumpkin & Sunflower Contest, basketball tournaments, was a camp counselor for ten years, and was involved in Horse Bowl and Hippology competitions. He was also on the team that competed at National Horse Bowl. Dylan stated that leadership, communication, patience and being a role model are skills that he has learned over the years as a counselor and member of 4-H. He continued to say that 4-H is a very welcoming place and he wants to be that person to his future coworkers. Dylan plans to further his education at UW-Stevens Point or Fox Valley Technical College with a Sport Business Management degree. Congratulations, Dylan.



## *Norah Boehm*

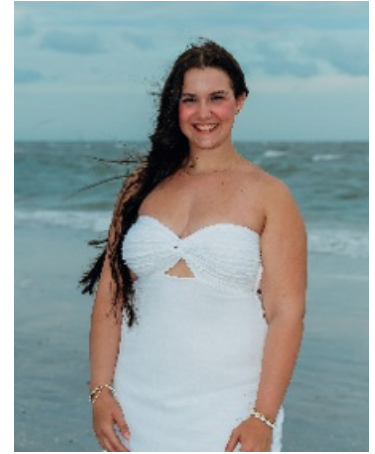
Norah Boehm has been in 4-H for ten years as a member of Bent Arrow 4-H Club. She dove into the project list that 4-H offers. Her projects, among 24, include Art Appreciation, Dogs, Horticulture & Gardening, Leadership, Photography, Rabbits, Self Determined, Sewing, and Visual Arts. Norah's community service list was remarkable and detailed, noting 158 hours for Outagamie County 4-H. Her list included Club Drama Director, serving at the Golden Corral for Veterans Day, helping to create and set up the educational booth, Dog Project 4-H Judge, steward for the IABCA Dog Show, and working at the club's Brat Fry. At the club level, she was sergeant at arms, vice president and president. At the state level, Norah was a member of Arts Ambassadors, serving as the first stage manager. A highlight for Norah included having an art piece selected as Judge's Favorite in 2024 and placing 7th at state. In 2021, her springer spaniel and her won Grand Champion in Obedience. In 2025, she directed her club's play and in 2026, she took on the challenge of writing the script to help promote 4-H. She also stated that she was overjoyed with helping at Summer Academy. Norah's essay stated that 4-H has always been a family experience; from her aunt and grandma teaching her cake decorating, her dad attending Summer Academy with her, learning to sew from her mom and grandma. 4-H has given her memories with her family that will be cherished forever.



# CPF Scholarship Winners

## Claire Schmidt

Claire Schmidt has been in 4-H for eleven years as a member of Fast Trackers 4-H Club. She has experienced several projects that 4-H offers including Arts and Crafts, Foods, Clothing, Photography, Youth Leaders, Cake Decorating, Communications, and more. Her community service included delivering fruit boxes to the elderly, bell ringing, writing letters to a pen pal in El Salvador, collecting pull tabs for Ronald McDonald House, On the Farm, working the Dairy Bar, tie blanket making, and State Fair Dairy Lane. She has been a club president for two years and has led games and craft workshops. Claire was involved in many club and county activities such as Music Fest, Ski Day, basketball tournaments, Explore Wisconsin, Art Retreat, a candy making workshop, Project Learning Day, 4-H Band, Dairy Lane Fair promotion, and more. In her essays, she expresses the impact that 4-H has had on her growing confidence and developing important life skills. Over time, she has become more comfortable speaking in front of others and expressing ideas clearly. Through 4-H, she has learned how to take initiative, work with others, and stay committed to her goals. She mentions that what started as a project has become something she hopes to carry into her future career. Claire plans to attend Fox Valley Technical College with an interest in Baking and Pastry Management. Best wishes and congratulations.



## Congratulations Graduates!

We are incredibly proud of each of you! Continue to seek after your sparks, follow your dreams and see where they take you! The team at the Outagamie County 4-H Extension office will be cheering you on!

# Club Corner

## Fast Trackers by Jenna

This meeting was started with member reports. Max talked about their family vacation, Brewers spring training in Arizona. Evelyn explained participating in the Girls On The Run program she joined at her school. Millie showed her rabbit Bruno, and Charlie talked about turkey hunting. Throughout the meeting we had a silent auction and everyone went around and wrote their name down and how much they were going to pay for an item. The highest/last person to put their name with bid got to keep the item. We also had multiple rounds of Heads and Tails with the coin and kept going until there was a winner. Members were encouraged to take a rock to paint for our Kindness Rock Garden and return it at the next meeting. Many fair reminders were explained including the Merit Auction, which is new this year, and getting your Fair Entries done by the due date of May 25. Don't forget to order your gate passes especially with the new guidelines this year. Dairy Bar sign up is now open and each family should be volunteering to work a shift for 4-H. Reports were given including cake decorating and flower arrangement workshops. Our big community service event, On The Farm, is coming soon, June 6. Make sure to hang up your flyers and share on Facebook to promote this free public event. Thank you to the families who volunteered for the following: Fair Planter, Unique Planter, Fair Booth and Fair Promotion.



## Fairview by Mayson

Our meeting was held Wednesday June 3. At the meeting the June Dairy month committee played Dairy Jeopardy. It was hard but everyone had fun! We had ice cream sandwiches and string cheese for snacks. This meeting was about fair business, and passes were handed out. We are all excited to see what everyone brings to the fair, and to hear how we all do! At the end of last month a few members helped get the club's fair promotion sign up too!



## B-Square by Eliza

B-Square's latest meeting was held on May 4th. Eliza and Bridget lead a Star Wars ice breaker where teams had to answer Star Wars themed questions. The roll call question was "What color is your lightsaber?" Madison did a demonstration on curling and Dillon, Kyleigh and Kensley did a demonstration explaining Horse Bowl and showed their winning ribbons. After the meeting all of the members received a little tree for Arbor Day.

# Club Corner

## **Buchanan Badgers by Lincoln**

The Buchanan Badgers 4-H club met up for their May meeting at St. Mary's Church in Kaukauna to talk about all the cool community service projects they've been working on, celebrate what members have made, and get ready for a super busy summer.

First up, we celebrated Lincoln, Abe, Nolan, and Elyse's May birthdays.

Then, the club talked about how they are helping out in the community. Club leaders announced that all the families who turned in their chore logs officially earned matching funds for the Homeless Project, which means the club is donating \$200 to help out. Members also recently spent time cleaning up trash in the ditches along Highways and were provided with lunch after all their hard work. On top of that, everyone has been saving pop tabs for charity, and we have officially filled up an entire giant cheese ball container. The club also went over a ton of reminders for the rest of the spring and summer.

Volunteers need to sign up for shifts on Saturday, May 16, at the Kaukauna Piggly Wiggly. Also, members were reminded to pick up the seeds if they ordered them. For the upcoming Fair Passes, remember you have to get a pass or bring a ticket, and little kids ages 4 and under aren't allowed on the rides for safety reasons. Members also need to check their email to sign up for Fox Cities Day on June 23, and make sure to register for 4-H Summer Camp before spots fill up. For fun stuff, the club is planning a summer trip to Badger Sports Park for mini-golf and laser tag. Plus, members and families are encouraged to go to the Appleton International Airport on July 24 to welcome home veterans returning on the Old Glory Honor Flights.

Since the Outagamie County Fair is coming up, a few members did presentations to show off the awesome projects they've been building:


- Nolan showed everyone how he cuts out wooden letters "Nebraska" and walked through the steps of sanding, sealing, and painting a project using red, white, and black paint.
- Lincoln showed off a cool wooden bat and a matching bat holder he made. The holder is made out of basswood, and the bat is made out of ash.
- Tucker brought in an awesome wooden bird feeder that he built himself.

After the presentations, the whole club worked on an activity making red, white and blue decorations to make our club's fair booth look awesome.

Before the meeting ended, leaders reminded everyone to keep working on their 4-H record books this summer!

## Nominations for “Friend of 4-H”

*“Someone Special, Outstanding, & Very Involved Supporter of Outagamie County 4-H”*

Name of person being nominated	
What makes this individual/business a good candidate? 	
Your name	
Phone or Email	



*Due August 1 to Leaders Association Executive Committee.*



Use the form below or sign up online for a Program Committee.

<https://bit.ly/2026ProgramCommitteeSignup>

One form per person please.

## 2026/2027 Program Committee Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Club \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please check one:

I am a  4-H Volunteer  Youth Leader (grade 7-13)

Program Committees				
Project Committees				Event/Extra Committees
Check up to 3 committees that you would like to serve.				
Arts	Dogs	Natural Sciences	Action Center Stage (located at the Fair)	
Cats	Energy & Electricity	Outdoor Recreation	Awards & Recognition	
Child Development	Fiber & Textile Arts	Photography	Dairy Bar	
Civic Engagement	Foods	Plant Sciences	Drama Festival	
Cloverbuds	History	Poultry & Rabbits	Educational Travel Opportunities	
Coding and Computer Science	Home Environment	Sewing	Family Learning Day (Day of event only)	
Communications	Livestock	Shooting Sports	Music, Speaking & Talent Festival	
Dairy	Mechanical Sciences	Woodworking	Outreach	
Dairy, Fiber & Pet Goats				

**Signup Online: <https://bit.ly/2026ProgramCommitteeSignup>**

**Please submit form by August 15 to Extension Office**

**Attn: Program Committee, 3365 W. Brewster St, Appleton, WI 54914**

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**Fax Number 920-832-4783** **711 Wisconsin Relay**

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