



The Voice of 4-H

The Vernon County 4-H Family Newsletter



UW-MADISON DIVISION OF EXTENSION VERNON COUNTY STAFF

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"I say bugs, you say EWWW!"

Emery Bork - 4-H Coordinator

"Did you know that a cockroach can run approximately 50 yards in two minutes? How fast can you run 50 yards? "

This was one of the questions and experiments run by our intern, Chase, this past week at our entomology series "Bugs in the Garden." Thankfully, our Growing Together Garden doesn't have cockroaches, but our youth enjoyed hunting for bugs, analyzing where they lived, how they moved, as well as categorized their body parts. Paired with games such as 'caterpillar tag', and 'get through the spider web,' approximately 30, non-4-H youth were exposed to our program. Many parents were surprised that 4-H is also involved in community outreach by teaching curriculum in after school programs (in this case summer school) and that we would focus on a topic like "bugs." We are hoping to continue to expand the groups of people that 4-H impacts, particularly with after school programming!

Since bugs, or entomology, is our main topic focus this summer, we encourage you to join in on the fun, as we are now offering the program to 4-Hers and the general public. Announcements and information for more programs are later on in the newsletter, along with a bunch of other excellent opportunities!



Photo Happenings



VERNON COUNTY 4-H

#trashtag
Photo Collage



#trashtag a HUGE success

Our 4-H clubs had a blast working in many different parts of the county. Activities included cleaning elderly neighbors' yards, storm clean-up, trash pick-up at sport complexes, planting trees, painting a historic schoolhouse, building benches for community areas, and so much more. This project helped out countless people, along with teaching our club members valuable life lessons such as empathy and teamwork. This program was an absolute success, and our members certainly demonstrated the "hands for larger service!"

A deep thank you to all club leaders and parents that pitched in to help make this possible!



VERNON COUNTY 4-H

#trashtag
Photo Collage



Updates: What you need to know

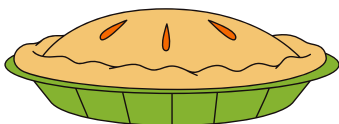
YQCA: Youth for the Quality Assurance of Animals:

All youth that exhibit livestock animals (cattle, swine, sheep, goats, poultry, rabbits) at the fair, must complete the YQCA program each year. Youth may take the classes online for a \$13 fee. Families will need to take YQCA online, as Vernon County no longer has an agriculture educator to offer in-person classes. YQCA must be taken by youth who are exhibiting the following species: goats, beef, chickens, swine, rabbits, sheep, and dairy. To register and complete online YQCA, go to the following website: www.yqcaprogram.org

Fair Food Stand Sign Up Process

The food stand at the fair is one of the main ways 4H makes money. This money is used in programming and supporting your youth. All families are required to sign up for a food stand shift, regardless the age of their children or volunteer status. Shifts will NOT be assigned this year. Individuals will now have the ability to sign up for a shift based on your schedule. When you sign up and complete a shift, you will earn money for your club. Each shift is worth a certain amount depending on need/availability. Each family is required to have at least one adult sign up, and if the youth is 12 or older, those youth are required to sign up. Clubs will have the ability to sign up on a schedule based on who won the Youth Leadership Project Challenges. You will sign up online, but can also call our office to sign up as well. The link will be released to clubs via emails.

Call our office if you have questions. Also, each family is required to bring one 9 inch two crusted pie.



Fair Food Stand Sign Up Cont'd:

Here are the winning clubs and dates that the food stand sign up will be released to them:

- 1st Place: Retreat Ramblers July 5
- 2nd Place: Liberty Pole Boosters July 8
- 3rd Place: Country Critters: July 11
- 4th Place: Seasbranch Smithies: July 15
- 5th Place: Mississippi Steamers: July 18
- 6th: Davis Diggers: July 22
- 7th: Riverside Badgers: July 25
- 8th: Lucky Clovers :July 29
- 9-11th: Nerison, Mapledale/56, Springville Superstars: August 1
- 12/No place: Enterprise Eagles, Hillsboro Hotshots: August 4

All shifts must be filled by August 9th

Please keep an eye out for "Food Stand Clean Up Day" emails. We need families to help us get the stand ready and squeaky clean!



Updates: What you need to know, ctd

An Opportunity to Serve at National Night Out:

Need to make up a missed meeting, want an opportunity to have your youth learn to serve others? We are partnering with Vernon County Sheriff's Department for the 3rd year to offer free food during their annual National Night Out. We are looking for both youth and adult volunteers to serve food during the evening. Please keep an eye out for emails asking you to sign up to volunteer a shift. Please also plan to attend with your family, as it is a FANTASTIC family event and everything is completely free!

Foods Revue: July 16th

We are still looking for entries for our first ever Foods Revue. What a great way to practice your fair entries, get feedback from a judge, and engage in creative skills! Information on Foods Revue, as well as registration information can be found at the link below or use the QR code! Deadline to register is Wednesday, July 13!

<https://vernon.extension.wisc.edu/files/2022/07/Foods-Revue-and-Tasting-Event.pdf>



FRIEND



Disability Awareness Day

Our Youth Leadership Project is proud to present Disability Awareness Day. Join us the afternoon of July 31st for an eye opening experience. Youth will rotate through three sessions: wheelchair basketball, learning how to sign the pledge in ASL, and using adaptive equipment for every day tasks.

These classes are taught by some of our Vernon and Richland County 4-H youth that live with a disability. They are excited to share their experience with others and to teach friends and peers how to be advocates for other youth that live with disabilities.

The program is open to grades 3-8. It will be held at the Cornerstone School, from 2-5. The registration form is online, and this program is free. The registration is a little longer than what you'd normally see, but please take the time to sit down with your youth to fill it out. There has been little research on how best to teach Disability Awareness and Advocacy in impactful ways and we are hoping to publish anonymous data on this event in the hopes that other county 4-H programs will also copy our event in the future. This is why we're asking a few more questions on the form.

To register:

<https://forms.gle/cvrv5yktK1NG1Puq5>



Project Updates

Poultry and Rabbits Projects: The ban on poultry due to influenza has been lifted by DATCP!!

Horse Project: The State Qualifying Show is set for 08/06/2022 at the fairgrounds. Our judge will be Megan Sacia. More information regarding this show coming soon! The next meeting and open arena is set for July 17th at 2 pm. Please join us! This is the perfect time to complete your safety check as a requirement to show at the fair. If you have any sponsorships, please turn them into me or drop them off at the Extension Office. Follow us on our Facebook page for more frequent project updates!

As always, please reach out to me with any questions.
Brook Strangstalien, Horse and Pony Project Leader



Shooting Sports: The summer schedule is as follows, all held at Coon Valley Conservation Club:
-Invitational Shoot: July 18th Noon-3 PM
-Premium (Fair) Shoot: August 29th Noon-3PM

To register for the invitational shoot, the form can be found here or use the QR code:
<https://vernon.extension.wisc.edu/files/2022/06/Shooting-Sports-Competition-1.pdf>



New Sr. Admin Assistant

Hi, my name is Miranda! I'm a recent psychology graduate from UW- Stevens Point and I'm super excited to be helping Emery with 4-H! I love a lot of nerdy things like Harry Potter and Halloween, and I have two funny dogs named Buck, a corgi, and Chester, a golden retriever. I also love cooking, drawing, and hiking! I can't wait to learn more about 4-H and get to know all the people involved!



Summer Intern

If you haven't heard, we have a new intern with us this summer! Chase Brown, who is from the Westby area, is working to support us in a variety of ways. Chase is a sophomore at UW-La Crosse, majoring in education (social studies/history emphasis). He's done an excellent job and we are very excited to be working with him! Chase's capstone projects this summer involve teaching entomology in conjunction with the McIntosh Library in several programs: Bugs in the Garden and the Cloverbud Garden Gala.



County Happenings



CLOVERBUD GARDEN GALA

August 9, 2022 9-11:30 AM
Drop Off at McIntosh Memorial Library
Courtyard: 205 South Rock Ave
Open to Grades: K-2 (as of Jan 2022)
Free


Join us for a fun packed morning of exploring the Growing Together Garden with the McIntosh Memorial Library. Youth will rotate to 4 different sessions:

- Bug Pinning and Identification
- Harvesting Vegetables/Taste Testing/Nutrition Content
- Exploring Garden Books
- Garden Arts and Crafts

To register, please call the Extension Office at 608-637-5276 or scan the QR code below to register online. Spots are limited, and registration closes July 30. Parents are able to accompany their youth for the morning.



Bugs in the Garden



Join us Thursdays from 3:30-4:30 in the Growing Together Garden (across the street from the library) to learn about gardening, bugs, STEM and more! Cost is free. Open to grades: 1-5. Program runs from July 7 - August 11th. Further communication regarding programming, pick-up and drop off times, etc. will be emailed to registrants. You do not have to attend each Thursday! Register using the link or QR code:
<https://forms.gle/whJ2MhDpiCZCa7zK7>



McINTOSH MEMORIAL
Library
of VIROQUA



Thinking about entering a poster in the fair?

Join us for Posterpalooza on Tuesday, August 25
Drop in any time from 9-Noon in the Erlandson Building!

Here are your steps to join:

1. Look in this year's online fair book to see if you can enter a poster in one of your projects.
 2. Register to enter, and follow the rules for submitting ALL of your fair entries to your club leader.
 3. Attend Posterpalooza where you will have the opportunity to look and interact with posters, and then sit down to work on your own fair poster. We will provide basic materials such as posters, markers, and fun additives. You bring pictures and information to put on. Come any time during our hours and leave when you want!
- (Geared towards Cloverbuds-6th grade, with guidance from parents)



State & Nationwide Happenings

NATIONAL 4-H CONGRESS

OVERVIEW

A five-day educational experience to meet with other 4-H youth from around the US, Canada, and Puerto Rico to engage in leadership, citizenship, global awareness, and inclusion.



LOCATION & DATES

National 4-H Congress will take place from November 25-29, 2022 in Atlanta, Georgia. Registration is open from July 1 - August 1, 2022.

REQUIREMENTS

- 4-H members 9th-12th grade at registration
- maximum age 18 as of January 1, 2022
- youth can only attend once as a delegate



REGISTRATION OPENS SOON!

For more information, contact Justin Lieck, Educational Programs Assistant at justin.lieck@wisc.edu or 608-263-5971 or visit <https://go.wisc.edu/727h67>



Celebrating Our Seniors

The Vernon County 4-H Leader/Parent Federation granted 4, \$300 scholarships to various graduating seniors. They are Abigail Diehl (Liberty Pole Boosters 4-H), Genesee Goltz (Davis Diggers 4-H), Grant McCauley (Seasbranch Smithies 4-H), and Lexi Christianson (Liberty Pole Boosters 4-H).



Abigail Diehl: Being a member of 4-H has helped shape me into the person I am today. It has taught me how to put my community first, many leadership qualities, and to put effort into my work. My experiences through 4-H have

positively impacted me and with improve my experience throughout college. I plan on attending UW-Platteville for an engineering degree. I decided to go into engineering because I enjoy math and science, along with the problem-solving skills, and challenges it brings me.



Genesee Goltz: I have been in 4-H since I was in 4th grade. 4-H has helped me build more confidence in things like public speaking and leading groups and activities. 4-H has also helped me gain independence. I have been

the most passionate about the dog and poultry projects. I plan to attend Western Technical College beginning the fall of 2022. I hope to transfer to UW-La Crosse and get a degree in Therapeutic Recreation. My goal is to be able to help children with disabilities succeed at activities they enjoy.

Keep in mind that Vernon County Federation will help youth cover up to half the travel costs.

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Requests for reasonable accommodations for disabilities or limitations should be made prior to the date of the program or activity for which it is needed. Please do so 10 days before the program activity so that proper arrangements can be made.

Celebrating Our Seniors, ctd



Grant McCauley: I have been a 4-H member since I was in kindergarten as a member of the Seas Branch Smithies Club in Westby. I have been involved in the Shooting Sports project. I have shown projects at the Vernon County

Fair, including clover bud projects, swine, poultry, photography, baking, Legos, vegetables, woodworking and more. I was Club President for 2 years. I traveled to Space Camp and have attended County 4-H camp as well. 4-H gave me many opportunities to meet new people and learn leadership skills. I was able to gain public speaking skills and learned a lot about working with animals. Participating in service projects helped me to learn about giving back to the community. 4-H has been a great experience for me.



Lexi Christianson: Being in 4-H has taught me many great things; the biggest one being leadership. I have helped a lot in volunteering in my community, like trash pick-up and helping in the local food pantries. I enjoy helping

others and making a difference. I plan to go to college at UW-Eau Claire for a biology degree to later become a doctor or physician assistant.

