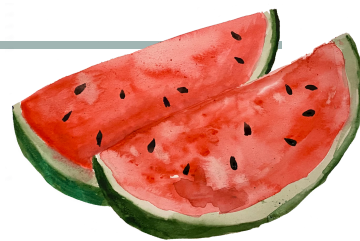


The Voice of 4-H

The Vernon County 4-H Family Newsletter



CLOVERBUD, INARA, MAPS OUT HER FAIRY GARDEN AT A RECENT PROJECT EXPLORATION DAY IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THOREAU'S GARDEN

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A Story from Camp

Emery Bork - 4-H Educator

One way to describe 4-H camp is a 48-hour, jam-packed chaotic adventure. Purposefully done so that we counter homesickness, youth are busy hiking, crafting, learning, and teambuilding from 8 in the morning until 10 at night. I thought I'd share a fun story:

Monday morning at 6:00 AM: Warm and snug in my camp bed, trying to catch a few z's from being on late night patrol, (where I walk from cabin to cabin until midnight to make sure lights are out and things are quiet) I awake to the sudden singing and thundering from a rather large group of enthusiastic boys. I roll out of bed to see our 3-4th graders, along with their exhausted adult chaperones, dancing over to the soccer field to play a big game before everyone is to report to breakfast at 8. Feeling regrettably sorry for the adults, but happy to see joy on our campers' faces, I tuck back in for 10 more minutes. At breakfast time, it's revealed to me that they decided to pull an all-nighter. While smug with themselves for the first 15 minutes of breakfast, those warm eggs settled heavy on tummies and 5 minutes later, several were snoozing on the tables. Smiling to myself, I told the adult chaperones, that they should expect a full night sleep tonight and

to have to wake them up the next morning. Sure enough, tired little campers lazed down the hill behind largely smiling adults the next day.

So many new friends were made, and so much fun was had. I enjoyed working with the 3-4th graders, learning about ocean science and how fish breathe, and then leading free-choice salt dough and origami crafting in the afternoon. Here are a few photos from camp.

Photo Happenings



Updates: What you need to know

Registering for Fair:

Fair books have been handed out to your club leaders to distribute to families. We were allotted 10 per club. Remember that registration takes place on the **fair website**. If you are having difficulties registering for fair, please contact the fair office. A list of their hours can be found in the fair book or on their website. If you are exhibiting animals, please make sure you have all of the correct paperwork and YQCA certification (dairy, beef, swine, sheep, rabbit, poultry only). If you have questions or concerns in a specific project area, please call the superintendent listed-- they're the experts and can help. After registering for fair, turn your forms into your club leader to handle for your family.

Fair Food Stand Sign Up Process

We ask that one parent from each family, no matter the age of their youth, and ALL youth aged 12 and up work a shift at the food stand during our county fair. It's a fun opportunity to meet other 4-H parents from throughout the county, and your youth practices serving others, taking orders, and putting math to good use. We want to inform you that you will have to pay the gate fee in order to enter the fairgrounds during fair. If you do not have the funds to purchase a gate fee, we are holding slots for Wednesday night, as that is a free gate night during fair. Please contact us to reserve one of those slots. If your youth is entering in projects during fair, they will get a gate pass. If you live with a disability or are in a situation where you or your youth cannot work at the food stand, please let our office know. We keep track of who works shifts and we take that into consideration if youth apply for large travel grants and scholarships. The sign up process for shifts will open based on challenge placings.

Fair Food Stand Sign Up Process, Ctd: Here are the winning clubs and dates that the food stand sign up will be released to them:

1st Place: Lucky Clovers: July 3
2nd Place: Liberty Pole Boosters: July 7
3rd Place: Mississippi Steamers: July 10
4th Place: Country Critters: July 14
5th Place: Seas Branch Smithies: July 17
6th: Retreat Ramblers: July 21
7th: Davis Diggers: July 24
8th: Nerison :July 28
9-10th: Hillsboro Hotshots & Springville Superstars: August 1
11 & No Place: Library Lenders, Enterprise Eagles & Riverside Badgers: August 4
All shifts must be filled by August 9th

2-Crusted Pie Reminder:

Each family is required to make (or purchase) two, two crusted pies for our food stand to sell during the fair. **NO cream or crumble top pies can be sold due to insurance reasons.** You can bring your pies with you to your shift or drop them off, but again, remember about gate fees. You may also drop your pies off at the Extension Office Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday (8:30 AM-4:30 PM) ONLY and we will get them to the food stand if you do not want to deal with getting through the gate. We will have a last name checklist where you will put a check next to your name so we know who has helped us and how many pies came through our stand. Many clubs will be making their pies together, and we ask that you try to bring two different flavors, but that's certainly not required.



Updates: What you need to know, ctd

An Opportunity to Serve

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 4th year to offer free food during their annual National Night Out on Tuesday, August 1. We are looking for both youth and adult volunteers to serve food during the evening. Please scan the QR code to sign up for a shift. Please also plan to attend with your family, as it is a FANTASTIC family event and everything is completely free!

volunteersignup.org/YPTFK



AmeriCorps Member Application Open: Vernon County 4-H is growing! We want to reach everyone in Vernon County, and we've received a grant to bring in a 3/4 AmeriCorps member to help. This individual will help grow partnerships with outlier communities such as Ontario, Readstown, and La Farge to begin new 4-H clubs, and help recruit new adult volunteers. The position starts in September 2023 and runs until August 2024. AmeriCorps is unique and runs much like the PeaceCorps. Check out our announcement here, which also contains the application link.

<https://vernon.extension.wisc.edu/2023/06/19/vernon-county-4-h-to-host-ameri-corps-member-how-to-apply/>



Upcoming Countywide Programming and Project Updates

4-H Family Fun Night

The Vernon County 4-H Youth Leadership Project Presents Family Fun Night! Carnival games and prizes, education stations, club competitions, leader dunk tanks, pie contest and more! We will also have a short award ceremony for our scholarship recipients and key award winners. We will have a bonfire with hot dogs/sausages/smores and dinner. The Library Lenders 4-H Club will be serving food for tips to start their club fund account. The program is free, but bring a little tip for the Library Lenders! Let us know you're coming:

<https://forms.gle/j5AkrbpLWbf1hCW58>



Upcoming Countywide Programming and Project Updates

Trash to Treasure Day: We are partnering with Vernon County's Solid Waste and Recycling department to offer a program called Trash to Treasure Day. Take a tour of our county's recycling facility, help do some general clean up, and then work in their shop to create a unique recycled treasure. We are planning for an item that can be entered in the Dept 18: Cultural Arts, Class I: Recycled Item—so please pre-enter those classes ahead of time. We will be working with old books/magazines and paper. This program is open to 3-6th graders, and is capped at 30 participants. Parents are expected to stay with youth during this program. To register:

<https://forms.gle/ixGfcYegMXUcEPAX6>



Trash to Treasure Day

August 5, 9-11 AM

Join us at the Vernon County's Solid Waste and Recycling department for a tour, some community service, and learn how to fold a book into art and turn it into crystals!



Photography Day Camp: We are excited to welcome new photography adult volunteer Sean Smith to 4-H! He comes with a deep background of photography and instruction skills. Sean is passionate about teaching every aspect of photography and helping youth learn in the ins and outs of their cameras.

Sean will be offering a very special workshop for select youth on August 2nd from 2 PM-7PM. This will be an intensive workshop for 5th grade and up, where youth will learn to work with their cameras. Youth will travel to several different locations throughout the afternoon to take different types of photos. Participants don't have to have any experience, but need to have the passion to stick with the workshop throughout the program. The workshop has a maximum of 12 participants. 4-H Educator, Emery will be accompanying the participants and providing transportation. The cost is free and dinner/snacks will be provided. To register:

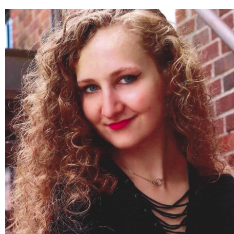
<https://forms.gle/gt7jV3cSgveMTK2x7>



Parents are expected to attend a slide show presentation of the youths' work after the workshop around 7:45 PM.

Scholarship and Key Award Recipients Named

The Vernon County 4-H Leader/Parent Federation granted 4, \$300 scholarships to various graduating seniors. They are Vivian Stephenson (Country Critters), Maggie Berra (Mississippi Steamers), Aubrey Jothen (Seas Branch Smithies), and Denali Huebner (Seas Branch Smithies). An additional \$300 scholarship from the Gertrude Krier Memorial 4-H Scholarship was awarded to Vivian Stephenson and Maggie Berra for their involvement in the Youth Leadership Project. Key Award recipients are Vivian Stephenson, and Rachel Diehl (Liberty Pole Boosters).



Vivian Stephenson: As a whole 4-H has had extremely positive influences on my personal and professional development, and will be sure to serve me not only in future endeavors at my university, but all areas of life. Vivian will attend Viterbo University, pursuing pharmacy.



Maggie Berra: The Youth Leadership Project places independence, planning, organization and innovation in the hands and minds of young people. I have learned problem solving skills, collaboration, patience and time management.

It has also helped me become a better role model for the younger youth-- I didn't realize how much younger youth would look up to me until I was a counselor. Boys and girls still come up to me and say hi! Maggie will attend Viterbo University, pursuing nursing.



Denali Huebner: Being a member of a 4-H club has positively impacted me in many ways. This club has given me leadership opportunities, a creative outlet, and wonderful experiences while showing animals. Denali plans to major in nursing at the University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire.



Aubrey Jothen: Through 4-H, I've now grown up to be a strong, independent young woman that can anything I put my mind to. There are four categories that stand out to me that 4-H provided me with: confidence, the power of giving, opportunities, and independence. Aubrey will major in an agricultural field at the University of Wisconsin - Platteville.

ASL DAY CAMP



Learn ASL from Deaf/Hard of Hearing youth leaders while playing games and making new friends!

August 13, 9:30 am - 4 pm





Head to:
<https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/uphamwoods/2023/05/23/august-13-asl-day-camp/>



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Do You Need to Contact Us?: Just a gentle reminder that Miranda and myself are in the office from 8:30 AM -4:30 PM, M-F most days. If we both are out of the office, leaving a voicemail or sending an email is the best way to reach us, as we do not have additional staff to cover. Please **DO NOT CONTACT ME ON MY PERSONAL FACEBOOK** with 4-H questions. I will get back to you as quickly as I can, but also understand that I am out of the office doing programming, attending conferences, meeting with potential partners, or using PTO.

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Shooting Sports Volunteer Update: Our office continues to seek volunteers to keep the shooting sports program running. We have contacted several suggested individuals, but have not received a commitment. At this time, our shooting sports events: invitational in July and fair shoot will not be held for 2023. There is an upcoming shooting sports volunteer training event in Onalaska slated for December 2nd for individuals interested in getting certified. I have committed to partner with Sheriff's Department in their programming, and will share shoots they host in order to have opportunities for youth interested in shooting events.

4-H runs on volunteer power provided by adults. We have many project areas that are open for adults to step in and help out. Please reach out to our office if you wish to volunteer with shooting sports or any other project.

The University of Wisconsin-Extension prohibits discrimination or harassment of any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, pregnancy (including childbirth, and medical conditions related to pregnancy or childbirth), physical or mental disability, medical condition (cancer-related or genetic characteristics), ancestry, marital status, age, sexual orientation, citizenship, or service in the uniformed services (as defined by the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994: service in the uniformed services includes membership, application for membership, performance of service, application for service, or obligation for service in the uniformed services) in any of its programs or activities.

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.