



JULY-AUGUST 2024 ISSUE 361

The Voice of 4-H

The Vernon County 4-H Family Newsletter



YOUTH PARTICIPATE IN JUDGING DAIRY CATTLE AT AREA ANIMAL SCIENCE DAYS. TEAMS FROM AROUND THE STATE COMPETED, VERNON COUNTY JR TEAM PLACED 6TH

**UW-MADISON DIVISION
OF EXTENSION VERNON
COUNTY STAFF**

EMERY BORK

4-H Educator
emery.bork@wisc.edu



MIRANDA WONTOR

Senior Administrative
Assistant
miranda.wontor@vernoncounty.org



OFFICE HOURS:

M-F: 8:30-4:30
Office Phone:
608-637-5276

OFFICE LOCATION:

318 Fairlane Drive
Ste. 392
Viroqua, WI 54665

A Year of Cultural Connection

Emery Bork - 4-H Educator

One of my favorite things about offering the Youth Leadership Challenge program to clubs and including a specific theme, is how it encourages the clubs to try something new and think outside the box. By using a reporting system, I can map out the impacts that our clubs make county-wide and share those with others.

Here are some highlights from a year focused on intercultural relationship building:

Clubs invited international presenters from a variety of countries and backgrounds or had presentations from members on Peru, Ireland, Dia De Los Muertos, Scandinavia, Jewish Culture, and Norway.

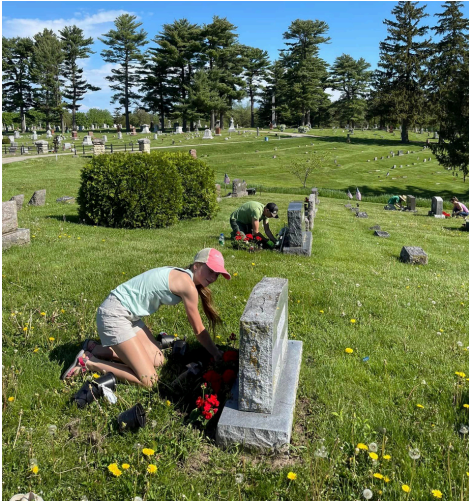
Clubs worked together to collect much needed items for an orphanage in Colombia that serves abandoned infants, and engaged in county programming for Lunar New Year. Lunar New Year was organized by a local group of Asian women whose goal was to build community and break down racial barriers. Attendees learned about various cultures, enjoyed Chinese cultural dancing, and much more.

These efforts over the year are to be applauded--well done Vernon County 4-H Clubs! There were over 44 reports received! The theme for 2024-2025 has just been announced: Education Advocates. The youth are currently building out the theme and what the challenges will look like. Club leaders will receive that information at a retreat in August.





Photo Happenings



Several 4-H Clubs pitched in to help plant thousands of red geraniums at Viroqua's local cemetery.



Youth and families have been enjoying the interactive projects presented at the 4-H Project Palace at the Viroqua Farmer's Market each Saturday throughout the summer.



We love sharing photos of what everyone has been up to--please email photos to Emery to be included in the newsletters!



Camp counselors gathered together for camp counselor training in order to prepare for our upcoming camp! 140 youth from Vernon, Richland, Crawford, Monroe, and La Crosse Counties will be camping at Upham Woods in Wisconsin Dells. Here, they are practicing the classic "Down By the Banks" song.



9-13th graders from all over the state gathered for a week at the UW-Madison campus to explore career tracks, collaborate on fun activities, and much more. Here, youth try their hand at making duct tape wallets and working through money skills such as saving with 4-H Educator, Emery.



The Seas Branch Smithies invited Nora from Cashton Veterinary Clinic to their June meeting. The youth got to practice giving "medication".



Updates: What You Need to Know

Registering for Fair:

Fair books will be out to your club leaders to distribute to families. 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. 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--do NOT take them to the fair office.**

County Establishes Livestock State Fair Shipping

Fund: Our local county committee (subset of the county board) has set aside \$1500 towards helping Vernon County 4-H livestock exhibitors go to State Fair. In the past, our county allocated funds towards helping truck in dairy cattle, but has now dedicated this funding to be open to rabbit, poultry, swine, sheep, beef, and dairy 4-H exhibitors. This money will be issued in partial reimbursement to exhibitors, evenly allocated depending on species/costs incurred and any other factors the Vernon County Extension Office sees fit. The 4-H office does not help youth apply to be in the WI State Fair, so families must register and work with state fair staff. Entry deadlines are much earlier than expected, require a lot of paperwork, and youth must have YQCA. Here is their website, so you can understand a bit more:
<https://wistatefair.com/competitions/junior-livestock/>



Raffle Tickets: Raffle tickets are being distributed for youth to sell. Each youth will receive 5, with the requirement that 3 must be sold. Work with your leaders to turn in tickets and money by their set deadline.

Fair Food Stand Sign Up Process and Pie Policy:

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

1st Place: July 5th: Liberty Pole Boosters
2nd Place: July 9th: Lucky Clovers
3rd Place: July 12th: Mississippi Steamers
4th Place: July 16th: Seas Branch Smithies
5th Place: July 19th: Davis Diggers
6th Place: July 23rd: Country Critters
7th Place: July 26th: ViroquaTeers
8th Place: July 30: Springville Superstars
9th Place: August 2: Enterprise Eagles
No Places: August 5: Riverside Badgers, Nerison, Hillsboro Hotshots

You will see some new sign-up slots on the sign-up program. Debbie will need help doing food runs with volunteers that have trucks, and there is an opportunity to sign up to work the 4-H table in the youth building. The 4-H table is strongly recommended for youth who are neurodiverse or thrive in a calmer, less fast-paced environment.

After reviewing feedback from clubs, we are offering the following two choices for clubs to take. Your club can either work together to source, and bake pies together at a club meeting time with an experienced baker OR the club has to contract with a Amish/local baker to make the pies and pay for them out of the club's account.

If clubs choose choice #2, it is the club's responsibility to find, contract with, pay, pick up, and deliver the ordered pies.

Please try to provide a variety of flavors if possible.

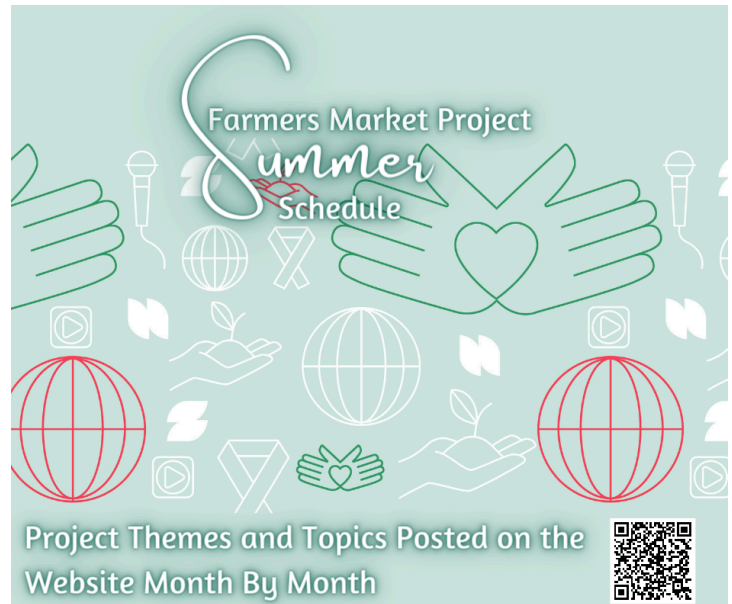
Clubs need to deliver one pie per family. We will be assigning drop-off days to clubs so we don't have too many on one day. We will communicate that out once the fair is closer. Don't forget that if you're assigned W-F, instead of dropping at the fair, clubs can drop at our office and we will deliver. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to run them past Debbie.



County, State & Nationwide Happenings, Ctd.



Information and
Registration



Club Competitions at Summer Social: On the next page, you will see our advertisement for annual celebration. Part of the celebration is the club competitions. Please take time during your club meetings to gather teams of youth who will represent your club in the competitions. Your leaders will report the competition lists in to the county office.

Competitions are:

Watermelon Eating Contest: 5 participants
Youth will take turns eating watermelon, the club who finishes the watermelon the fastest wins.

Water Transfer Challenge: 5 participants, will get wet

Youth will sit in a line of chairs, blindfolded. Each youth will get a tub. The first youth will have water in their tub and will need to lift it over their heads and attempt to pour it into the tub behind them, and so on. The club with the most water left at the end wins.



"THE SCIENCE OF SEASONS" Vernon County 4-H At-Home Cloverbud Series

ONCE A MONTH, YOUR CLOVERBUD WILL RECEIVE A PACKET IN THE MAIL
FULL OF EASY SCIENCE EXPERIMENTS THAT ANSWERS QUESTIONS LIKE:

- HOW DO ANIMALS STAY WARM IN THE WINTER?
- WHAT HAPPENS UNDERGROUND?
- CAN ANYTHING LIVE UNDER THE WATER?
- WHY DO APPLES HAVE A PEEL?

Lessons will begin arriving in November and come once per month from now until October.
Families can complete them at their own leisure! Sign up today!



Vernon County 4-H Presents

100 YEARS OF 4-H IN VERNON COUNTY

Family Fun Fair and Celebration

Join us for a free children's carnival, dunk tank, dinner, and ceremony honoring 4-H being in Vernon County for 100 years! We invite all community members, 4-H alumni, and current members!

4:00 PM-Carnival, Dunk Tank and Drop in Dinner

5:00 PM: Club Competitions

6:30 PM-Dinner Ends, Scholarship and 100 Year Ceremony



To Register



Sunday, August 4th
VMH Building, Vernon County
Fairgrounds



UW-MADISON EXTENSION



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Additional UW-Madison Division of Extension Office Staff

SHEENA COOK-FUGLSANG

FoodWise Nutrition Coordinator, Vernon,
Crawford and Richland Counties
sheena.fuglsang@wisc.edu

BETH MCILQUHAM

Regional Livestock Educator: Crawford, La
Crosse, Richland, Vernon Counties
mcilquham2@wisc.edu

HANNAH ALTIMUS, M.ED.

Community Development Extension Educator
haltimus@wisc.edu

SAM BIBBY

Regional Crops Educator: Vernon, La Crosse,
Crawford Counties
sbibby@wisc.edu

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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.

