

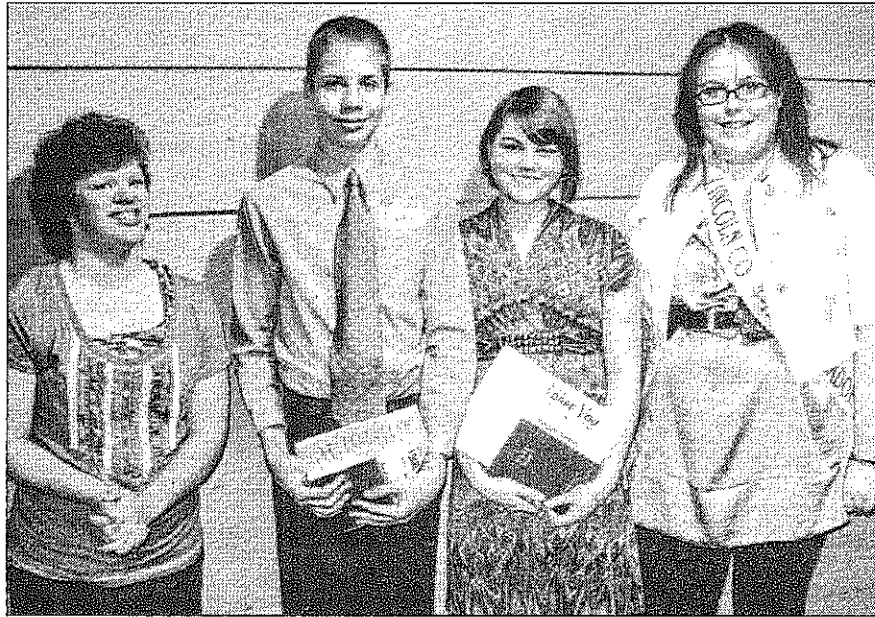
4-H leaders recognize ...

"4-H Volunteers are always willing to lend a hand" was the theme for this year's Lincoln County 4-H Leaders' Association annual Recognition Banquet on Oct. 29 at Schult's Country Inn.

More than 100 Lincoln County 4-H volunteers, members, friends and community supporters attended this year's banquet. Members of the Merrill Busy Bees 4-H Club hosted this year's banquet.

4-H is a community of young people across Lincoln County who are learning leadership, citizenship and life skills. Youths in grades kindergarten through 13 (one year after

high school graduation) can join 4-H, regardless of where they live. If you are interested in learning more about 4-H or how to get involved in Lincoln County 4-H, contact Debbie or Amanda at the UW-Extension office at 715-539-1072 or visit our website at <http://lincoln.uwex.edu/> or subscribe to the Lincoln County 4-H Blog <http://fyi.uwex.edu/lincolncounty4h/> for up-to-the-minute 4-H news. Wisconsin 4-H Youth Development is a program of the University of Wisconsin-Extension, Cooperative Extension, in partnership with local, state and federal government in each Wisconsin county.



I Dare You awards

Morgan Norton, a member of the Merrill Busy Bees 4-H Club, and Jonathan Barkholz, a member of the Hi-Lo's 4-H Club, received the American Youth Foundation's National Leadership Award, in recognition of personal integrity, balanced living and potential leadership.

The award was first offered in 1941 by the late William H. Danforth, founder of the Ralston Purina Company in St. Louis, who challenged young people to achieve their highest potential and to influence others through lives of service. The award takes its name from Danforth's book, "I Dare You."

Key awards

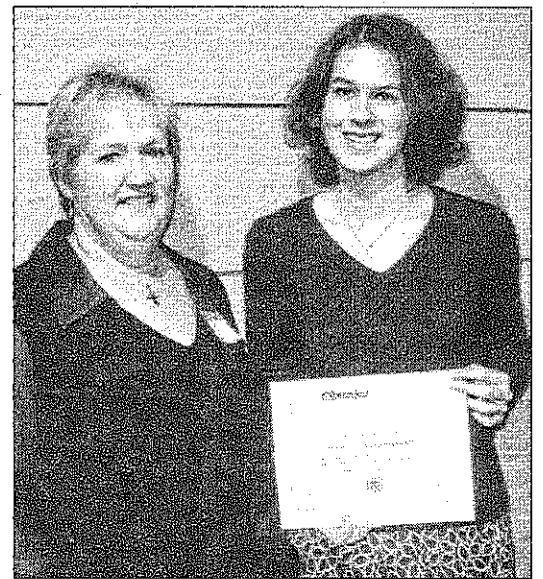
Myria Kludy, a member of the Barnes Creek Buccaneers 4-H Club, and Hayley Schoeppler, a member of the Pesobic Pathfinders 4-H Club, received the 4-H Key Award, the highest award given to 4-H members, which recognizes those who have shown consistent growth in their 4-H program, who have developed their citizenship and leadership abilities, and who have been helpful members in their club and community.



Graduating 4-H members

Beginning this year, the 4-H Board of Directors decided to present our graduating 4-H members with their certificate and alumni pin during the annual recognition banquet.

This year's graduating 4-H members are: Suzanne Simon of Barnes Creek Buccaneers, Ted Porath and Ariel Yarie of Barnyard Friends, Jacob Hintze and Paige Van Groll of Corning All Stars, Jordan Artus of Hamburg Hawks, Karissa Karau of Merrill Yellow Jackets, Noah Riddle and Kristin Vandergeest of Merrill Busy Bees, Hayley Schoeppler of Pesobic Pathfinders, Brandy Buckholt of Pine River Peppers, and Rachel Podgorski and Marissa Wallace of Pine River Pioneer/Sunrise 4-H Club.



Memory Book awards

Thirteen youths who did an outstanding job on their 4-H Memory Books were recognized at this year's banquet. Through the books, youths keep a learning record of their year in the 4-H program.

Those recognized were Lydia Kildahl and Molly McGinn of Barnes Creek Buccaneers; Willy Yogerst of Hamburg Hawks; Natalie Reiter, Tom Reiter, Katie Reiter, Heidi Massa and Stephanie Welke of Hi-Lo's; and Joseph Barkley, Shelby Fehlberg, Steven Fehlberg, Abigail Krueger and Zachariah Krueger of Merrill Busy Bees.

Years of service

There are 175 4-H Volunteer Leaders in Lincoln County who have given 1,678 years of service to the 4-H program. During the banquet we honored all of our 4-H volunteers; project leaders, general leaders and board members for their commitment to the program. Those leaders, who have been involved for one, five, 10, 15, 20 and 25 years, received a years-of-service pin and certificate at the banquet.

This year's recipients are as follows:

First-year leaders: Barnes Creek Buccaneers, Becky McGinn; Merrill Busy Bees, Amanda Barkley, Chrissy Kunkel, Erin Riddle, Megan Thistle and Esther Trostle; Pine River Peppers, Joseph Bickett, Michelle Bickett, Sarah Jaeger, Terry Petrowski, Ryan Wilding and Stephanie Wilding; Rockfalls Rascals, Jennifer Kautz; Resource leaders, George Hendrickson, James Small and Mary Small.

Five-year leaders: Barnes Creek Buccaneers, Virginia Simon and Janet Wardall; Merrill Busy Bees, Luke Lazare; Resource leader, Annie Wood.

Ten-year leaders: Corning Yankees, Jennifer Genrich; Merrill Busy Bees, Danielle Schulz and Pamela Steffenhagen; Rockfalls Rascals, Stephanie Zoellner; Resource leader, Mark McDonald.

Fifteen-year leaders: Barnes Creek Buccaneers, Barbara Paulus; Pine River Pioneer Sunrise, Rose Wendorf.

Twenty-year leaders: Barnyard Friends, Jeff Porath and Nancy Reinhardt Porath; Merrill Busy Bees, Mike Kunkel and Susan Vandergeest.

Twenty-five-year leader: Pine River Pioneer/Sunrise, Heidi Duley.



Outstanding fair volunteers

In 1990, the Lincoln County Fair Board initiated the annual recognition of two outstanding fair volunteers. This year the Outstanding Fair Volunteer Award was presented to Lisa Annis and Sandy Thurs.

Lisa was nominated for her willingness to help in whatever department needed her help during the county fair. She is always willing to share her ideas, positive attitude and smile with everyone involved.

Sandy was nominated for her role as the chairwoman for the Junior and Open Poultry department at the county fair. She works with the youth members on the committee to incorporate their ideas and make positive changes that have resulted in the growth of this department over the last several years.

Walmart donation

Margaret Sense, chairwoman for the Open Antiques Department and an employee of Walmart, presented the Lincoln County 4-H Leaders' Association Fair Board with a check for \$250. Walmart provides this annual donation to organizations that their employees volunteer in as a way of supporting the community.

... volunteers, members



Club Dairy award

The Merrill Busy Bees 4-H club was recognized for its efforts in promoting Wisconsin's dairy industry. The Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board awards 4-H clubs around the state for their efforts in promoting and celebrating June Dairy Month.

Friends of 4-H

Since 1963, the 4-H Leaders' Association has been recognizing two people, committees or organizations as Friends of 4-H. This year's awards went to Lincoln Wood Products, Inc., and the Pine River Volunteer Fire Department. Both of this year's Friend of 4-H award recipients were nominated for the tremendous support they provide to individuals, the overall 4-H program and to the Lincoln County 4-H Fair each year.

Lincoln Wood Products, Inc. has been a sponsor for the county fair for many years as well as for the 4-H program. This year, when the Fair Board took on the project of refurbishing the school house located on the fairgrounds, Lincoln Wood Products stepped forward to design and donate specially made windows to maintain the authenticity of the school house. This donation will not only benefit 4-H and the county fair, but will also benefit the community for many years to come as school groups and others visit the school house.

The Pine River Volunteer Fire Department and its members were instrumental in helping keep animals and fairgoers cool at this year's fair. As you might recall, several days during the 2011 county fair, the temperatures were in the high 90s to 100s. Several times during the fair, members of the Pine River Volunteer Fire Department sprayed down the Lokemoen and Stock Pavilion roofs thus cooling off these buildings, and the animals and fairgoers in those buildings.

4-H Ambassadors

The 4-H Program in Lincoln County continues to grow and change each year. Many of these changes are made possible with the help of the Lincoln County 4-H Ambassadors. They contribute an incredible amount of time and energy to the program through fundraising, emceeing, promoting and planning activities and events. The 2010-2011 Ambassadors and Ambassador Advisers were recognized for their considerable contributions. A big 4-H thank you goes out to last year's Ambassadors RaeAnn Brixius, Brittany Garrett, Myria Kludy, Steven Roets, Kelsey Schoeppler and Megan Spreeman. 4-H Ambassador Advisers Kim Brixius, Rebecca Kludy, and Lori Lemke were recognized for their leadership.



Outstanding 4-H volunteer

In 1988, the 4-H Leaders' Association initiated the annual recognition of two outstanding 4-H leaders. Beginning in 2001, the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation and the 4-H Leaders' Association jointly partnered to recognize two outstanding leaders in Lincoln County. This year's recipients were Sue Kunkel from the Merrill Busy Bees 4-H Club and Sandy Thurs from the Hamburg Hawks 4-H Club.

Sue Kunkel has been a 4-H volunteer leader for 22 years. Throughout that time, Sue continually promotes the 4-H program and the opportunities provided to everyone. She encourages both youths and adults to enroll in the 4-H program. Sue serves on the Fair Board and is also one of the major founders of the O Tannenbaum Tour, which benefits both the community and 4-H.

Sandy Thurs has been a 4-H volunteer leader for six years. She serves as a co-leader for the Hamburg Hawks 4-H Club with her mother and daughter. She has been actively engaged in recruiting youths and their families to join 4-H and their club to continue providing these positive opportunities for youth in her area of the county. Sandy is vice president of the Lincoln County 4-H Leaders Association and chairwoman for the Junior and Open Poultry Department at the Lincoln County Fair.

Special recognition

During this year's banquet, the Lincoln County Fair Board presented a plaque to the Eugene Borchardt family in recognition of Eugene's dedication and work provided at the Lincoln County Fair. For many years, Eugene not only donated time but also his equipment for moving dirt in front of the grandstand to make yearly events possible, such as the demolition derbies and any of the other events that needed excavating work.