



Happy Holidays! Merry Christmas! Happy New Year!

Thank you for taking the time to read 4-H Express, our bi-monthly county 4-H newsletter. Some of you are reading this for the very first time, and some of you have been receiving this for years. Welcome and welcome back to Lincoln County 4-H.

There is a LOT going on in 4-H and it's a lot to manage. For new families, it feels like there is a whole new language to learn. There is. There is also a lot to learn for families making a transition from the Cloverbuds program into the "big 4-H" program. So, how does a family learn everything they need to know?

Top 5 Lincoln County 4-H Resources:

- **4-H Express Newsletter.** This resource will appear in your mailbox every other month and will be filled with information about upcoming events, activities, and programs. The electronic version (and past copies) can be found at bit.ly/LC4HExpress.
- **Lincoln UW Extension Facebook Page and Instagram.** (bit.ly/ExtLinFB and bit.ly/LC4HInsta) This is where we share the most up-to-date information and reminders. Please "like" and "follow" us!
- **Club Leaders and Volunteers.** When questions come up, sometimes it's best to have a conversation. Reach out to your club leaders and if they don't know they answer, they'll know where to look.
- **Lincoln County 4-H Website.** (bit.ly/LincolnCounty4H) There is a lot here, such as applications, calendars, newsletters, links for fair information, and so much more!
- **Extension Lincoln County Office.** Holly & Becky are here to help answer your questions and steer you in the right direction. Contact us: [715-539-1072](tel:715-539-1072) or holly.luerksen@wisc.edu or rebecca.kludy@wisc.edu

The best advice I can give you, whether you are a new member or returning member is . . . "You get out of 4-H what you are willing to put into 4-H."

Here's to a great 4-H year!

Holly Luerksen, 4-H Educator



VOLUNTEER TODAY.
INSPIRE FOR A LIFETIME.

Purpose Statement

"We teach, learn, lead and serve, connecting people with the University of Wisconsin, and engaging with them in transforming lives and communities."



Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
LINCOLN COUNTY

An EEO/Affirmative Action employer, University of Wisconsin-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title IX and ADA requirements. 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 as early as possible prior to the program or activity so that proper arrangements can be made. Requests are confidential.



Join Wisconsin 4-H in a yearlong experience - Learn Together, Lead Together: Youth-Adult Partnerships! We will kick off with two sessions for the 2021-2022 Annual Leader Training. Plan for interaction and engagement, and all youth and adult leaders are invited to participate!

Leave with ideas to use right now in growing youth adult-partnerships in your club and community. We hope all youth and adult leaders join us!

Attend one or both - sessions are designed to bring together youth and adult leaders, and provide easy to use strategies, activities and ideas during your 4-H experiences. Registration details below:

These sessions are being offered in the virtual setting. Youth and adult participants can register using the links below. Once you register, you will receive the link for the zoom session(s), and be provided information on handouts, reference materials and supporting documents.

November 30th, 2021:

Learn Together, Lead Together: Building Relationships, Communication and Inclusion

- Time: 6:30-8:00pm
- Register here: <https://go.wisc.edu/7r9x64>

January 31, 2022:

Learn Together, Lead Together: Equal Voices, Roles and Participation

- Time: 6:30-8:00pm
- Register here: <https://go.wisc.edu/vze9e3>

Have questions? Reach out to your local educator!



Attendance will be recorded. WI 4-H Club annual chartering requires one adult leader and one youth from each club or group MUST attend one of the Annual Leader Training sessions.

Want the World Have!

December '21/January '22



NOVEMBER 30, 2021

6:30-8:00PM

FOCUS: RELATIONSHIPS,
COMMUNICATION AND INCLUSIVITY

REGISTER HERE:

<https://go.wisc.edu/7r9x64>



LEARN TOGETHER, LEAD TOGETHER: YOUTH- ADULT PARTNERSHIPS

YOUTH AND ADULTS: JOIN US!

LEARN ABOUT YOUTH-ADULT
PARTNERSHIPS, AND HOW WE CAN
LEARN AND LEAD TOGETHER!



Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

JANUARY 31, 2022

6:30-8:00PM

FOCUS: VOICES, ROLES AND
PARTICIPATION

REGISTER HERE:

<https://go.wisc.edu/vze9e3>



**VOLUNTEER TODAY.
INSPIRE FOR A
LIFETIME.**

4-H's Long-reaching Effects

Compared to other youth, 4-Hers are:

4-H

2x more likely to be
civically active

2x more likely to make
healthier lifestyle choices

4x more likely to contribute
to their communities





Barnes Creek Buccaneers
window display for National
4H week

Maya P., Zack L. & Midori P

Display was located at
Club X to C. W890 Hwy C,
Gleason, WI



CELEBRATE
THE GREAT

in Lincoln County 4-H

December '21/January '22



Kunkel Family display for
National 4H week

Kunkel Family Home

Busy Bees' Club display
for National 4H week

Klug Family Farm



Even though the Merrill Busy Bees were not able to meet much during the 2020-2021 4-H year, we were able to collect over 40 lbs of tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. We continue to do service projects and this is an important one for our youth.



Every year the Lincoln County 4-H Leaders Association offers the opportunity for enrolled youth to apply for awards and scholarships that we offer. These scholarships can be up to 50% of the cost of leadership programs, trips and participation in other state, country and world-wide 4-H opportunities!

The application for the awards and scholarships is through a resume process that is held in September of each year.

To see all the great state, national and world-wide opportunities that 4-H has to offer visit:

bit.ly/4HStateOpportunities

BUILD CONNECTIONS

GIVE BACK TO YOUR COMMUNITY

DISCOVER NEW SKILLS

The Wisconsin 4-H MOVEMENT

#wi4hmovement

Have fun while... EXPLORING NEW OPPORTUNITIES

Have fun while... BEING YOURSELF

Have fun while... BELONGING TOGETHER

Trip Scholarship Recipients!

December '21/January '22



WI 4-H Youth Conference Scholarship

Christian Lashua

American Spirit East Scholarship

Abigail Breitenmoser

Eva Jaroski

Maggie Lashua

Citizenship Washington Focus Scholarship

Margrit Breitenmoser

Joseph Jaroski

4-H Ambassadors

Christian Lashua

Maggie Lashua

There were no applicants for the "I Dare You"
or Key awards this year.



**2021 LINCOLN COUNTY 4-H AWARDS &
SCHOLARSHIP SELECTIONS**



December

- 1 ----- 4-H Robotics Group—LCSC, 6:00 pm
- 8 ----- 4-H Robotics Group—LCSC, 6:00 pm
- 13 ----- 4-H Sewing/Clothing Project—LCSC, 6:00 pm
- 14 ----- VIP Training —LCSC, 6:30 pm
- 15 ----- 4-H Robotics Group—LCSC, 6:00 pm
- 22 ----- 4-H Robotics Group—LCSC, 6:00 pm
- 24 ----- Christmas Eve—Lincoln County Extension Office Closed
- 27 ----- Christmas Day—Lincoln County Extension Office Closed
- 28 ----- Lincoln County 4-H Leader's Assoc. Board Meeting—LCSC, 6:00 pm
- 29 ----- 4-H Robotics Group—LCSC, 6:00 pm
- 31 ----- New Year's Eve—Lincoln County Extension Office Closed
- **Deadline:** 4-H Foundation Art Contest

January

- 3 ----- New Year's Day—Lincoln County Extension Office Closed
- 5 ----- 4-H Robotics Group—LCSC, 6:00 pm
- 10 ----- 4-H Sewing/Clothing Project—LCSC, 6:00 pm
- 20 ----- 4-H Horse Project—LCSC, 6:30 pm
- 25 ----- Lincoln County 4-H Leader's Assoc. Board Meeting—LCSC, 6:00 pm
- 28-29 ----- Fire & Ice Winter Camp— WI Lions Camp
- 31 ----- Annual Leadership Training—Virtual, 6:30 pm

February

- 2 ----- 4-H Robotics Group—LCSC, 6:00 pm
- 14 ----- 4-H Sewing/Clothing Project—LCSC, 6:00 pm
- 15 ----- **Deadline:** Apply to a State 4-H Team
- 17 ----- 4-H Horse Project—LCSC, 6:30 pm
- 22 ----- Lincoln County 4-H Leader's Assoc. Board Meeting—LCSC, 6:00 pm

March

- 2 ----- 4-H Robotics Group—LCSC, 6:00 pm
- 13 ----- DST Starts—Turn clocks ahead one hour!
- 14 ----- 4-H Sewing/Clothing Project—LCSC, 6:00 pm
- 17 ----- 4-H Horse Project—LCSC, 6:30 pm
- 22 ----- Lincoln County 4-H Leaders Assoc. Board Meeting—LCSC, 6:00 pm

NOTE: LCSC = Lincoln County Service Center, 801 N. Sales St, Merrill

**The 4-H Calendar is always a “work in progress”.
For the most up-to-date information, check out our
google calendar (bit.ly/LC4HCalendar).**

Fire & Ice Returns in 2022



COMING SOON IN 2022:

TEEN LEADERSHIP WINTER CAMP

YOUTH IN GRADES 7 - 13
SAVE THE DATE



JANUARY 28 - 29

LIONS CAMP • ROSHOLT, WI

REGISTRATION IN 4-H ONLINE 2.0 SOON



What's sparking our fire?

Games - Prizes - Challenges - Snacks - Outdoor Recreation
- Campfire - Movies - Learning - Leading - Living LOUD

MORE COUNTIES = MORE FUN

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UW MADISON EXTENSION



Wisconsin 4H Foundation Kicks off Art Contest

The Wisconsin 4-H Foundation has kicked off a contest that challenges all 4-H members to explore their creativity.

The Wisconsin 4-H Foundation Celebrates the Arts Art Contest is open to any current Wisconsin 4-H member, with cash prizes totaling nearly \$1,000. The contest will be held virtually, with photos of all entries submitted electronically. Entries are being accepted now through December 31, 2021.

The contest is broken into eight categories:

1. Drawing Using Any Medium
2. Painting (acrylic, watercolor or oil)
3. Pottery, Ceramics or Clay
4. Photography
5. Paper
6. Fabric, Yarn or Fiber
7. Wood
8. Any Other Media (ex: digital, metalcraft, jewelry, leatherwork, wax, eggshells, taxidermy, etc.)

A winner will be chosen in each category with a Best of Show award given to one entry chosen by the judging committee. Category winners will receive a \$100 cash award. The Best of Show entry will receive an additional \$150 cash award. Other art may be recognized but will not receive a cash award. Winners will be notified by email by February 1. A complete winner's list, as well as photos of the winning entries, will be on the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation Website by February 15, 2022.

To be eligible for the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation Art Contest, youth must be a 4-H member enrolled in 4H Online for the 2021-2022 4-H Program Year. Entrants do not need to be enrolled in any specific project to participate.

For more information: bit.ly/3cBAv3F

Join a State Team!

December '21/January '22



Applications are available for the 2022 Wisconsin 4-H State Teams! Do you love to sing, dance, act, write, speak, or draw? This may be for you!

Youth in grades 9-13 can apply to join the State Drama Company and State Arts Team for 2022. Teams help to lead WI 4-H & Youth Conference, perform at State Fair, help conduct the State Art Show, and much more! You can find out more information at the State Arts Teams website: .

4-H Drama Company creates a stage performance involving acting, song and dance in the five days leading up to 4-H and Youth Conference. Show content is a collaborative effort between company members and their director. Each Drama Company member contributes ideas for the show and works with the group to problem solve issues on the set and in the script. Drama Company takes their show on to the Wisconsin State Fair where they perform for fair goers from across the state.

4-H Art Team creates artwork around the theme of the Wisconsin 4-H and Youth Conference as well as designing and organizing the WI 4-H and Youth Conference art exhibit, reception and guided exhibit tours. The team members also teach seminars and train to be peer leaders for county and regional events including the Wisconsin State Fair. The 4-H Art Team is led by a professional artist who teaches team members artistic techniques using a variety of mediums.

4-H Communications Team tells the Wisconsin 4-H story using multiple forms of communication, including: photo, video, social media, blogging, and writing about club, county and state 4-H events. Team members develop a mixed-media presentation for delegates attending the Wisconsin 4-H & Youth Conference, as well as taking photos and videos of performances. They create promotional video clips for 4-H & Youth Conference and write articles about 4-H events. Communications Team members learn an abundance of problem solving, writing, photography and leadership skills as members of their team.

Applications are open in 4HOnline and close on February 15, 2022. Review the application pages for full information on what is required to apply. We hope to have you join us on one of our State Teams!

For more information: bit.ly/3HJsEzA



Volunteers In Preparation **VIP TRAINING**

Are you a new leader?

To be recognized as a 4-H volunteer in the Wisconsin 4-H Youth Development program, all adults ages 18 years and older must complete the Volunteers In Preparation (VIP) training. The purpose of this training is to ensure the safety and well-being of all participants. VIP training is step 4 of 4 to become a certified leader in 4-H.

Steps to become a certified 4-H leader:

1. Enroll on 4-Honline to become a leader
2. Complete background check
3. Complete the Mandated Reporter training found on 4-H online.
4. Complete Volunteers In Preparation training

*Once you have completed **ALL** of these steps then you are considered a certified 4-H leader.

Returning leaders, consider attending for a refresher.

**December 14,
2021**

**Lincoln County
Service Center,
Merrill**

Training Highlights:

- *Learn what UW-Madison Division of Extension is: we will talk about the different programs Extension offers. As we look at the different programs, we will also learn about what steps we take to create safe learning environments for youth and adults.*
- *Understand how volunteers contribute to Extension programs: The Division of Extension could not exist without volunteers like you - you help make programming happen. We will talk about the expectations and roles you might be interested*
- *Understand your role in reporting child abuse and neglect: Keeping participants safe is a top priority. We will spend time today learning about the expectations we have of volunteers to report suspected child abuse and neglect, and how we, as staff, are here to help you in that process.*
- *Gain skills and insights on how to work with youth: We'll talk about some of the educational frameworks for working with youth and how those apply in everyday situations.*

Register via Google form: bit.ly/LGLCVIP21

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Lincoln County

December '21/January '22



4-H Leaders Association

You are invited to help drive the county wide 4-H program.

Youth and adults are invited to the monthly meetings of the Lincoln County 4-H Leaders' Association. Meetings are typically held on the fourth Tuesday of the month beginning at 6 pm at the Lincoln County Service Center.

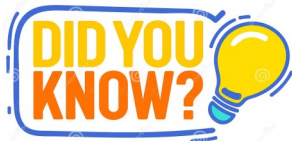
The annual meeting of the Lincoln County 4-H Leaders' Association is held every November. All members of Lincoln County 4-H are encouraged to attend this meeting. During this meeting we recap the events of the past year, lay the groundwork for new and exciting opportunities for the upcoming year and discuss our vision for the future of Lincoln County 4-H. We also elect new members to the Leaders' Association – **Remember:** any 4-H member (adult volunteers and youth grades 8 and over) can be elected to the Association Board and all 4-H members present are responsible for voting for Board membership.

The Annual Meeting for 2021 was held on November 16th, 2021. We welcome the following new members to the Board of Directors:

- Carrie Harris
- Mary Jo Lenkart
- Christian Lashua (youth)
- Maggie Lashua (youth)
- Rys Harris (youth)
- Ian Driekosen (youth)

The following will continue their service: Chad Lashua, Lori Lashua, Austin Harris, Jennifer Porath, Becky Kludy, Fern Langhoff, & Michelle Salter

Thank you for your many years of service to the following outgoing Board of Director members: Jeanne Schmidt & Caroline Lemke



The Lincoln County 4-H Leaders Association provides leadership, direction, and financial support to our county's 4-H programs. The success of Lincoln County 4-H is dependent upon volunteers stepping up to serve.



Important information on the 4-H American Spirit (East) Experience!

We need your input!

The 4-H American Spirit (East) Experience Planning Committee is asking that you take a moment to provide some valuable information as we plan for potential experiences that may be offered in Summer 2022. Please read the questions in the form carefully and help us determine priorities and considerations for a safe and successful travel experience.

THIS IS NOT A REGISTRATION FORM – IT IS INTENDED TO GATHER INFORMATION FOR PLANNING ONLY!

The decision to travel with the 4-H American Spirit Experience for youth across Wisconsin may include considerable adaptations from typical travel experiences. Some of these adaptations are common for the experience and how it has operated in the past; other adaptations may be unique for pandemic considerations.

These adaptations may include but are not limited to:

- Required use of masks by participants and public and/or limited use of masks by participants and public
- Provision of proof of vaccination and/or proof of negative COVID test results
- Sleeping accommodations include 4 youth per hotel room
- Travel includes cohabitation on a coach bus for approximately 10 days
- A deadline limiting the opportunity for a full refund will be enforced. Replacing drop-outs with youth from a waiting list may be possible if the waiting list youth meets the requirements to travel. The requirements to travel may include: participation in orientation, be in possession of a passport, have all health and behavior expectation paperwork turned in, and completing COVID-related testing/vaccination. Waiting list youth must also meet the “gaps” of same-gendered room accommodations.
- Failure to comply with the code of conduct and health-related emergencies may require parents to travel to the current trip location and arrange for transportation home. (Public transportation may not be an option in certain situations).

All parents of youth ages 13-18 are asked to complete the Planning for Potential 4-H American Spirit (East) Experience by December 3, 2022. The form can be found at: <https://bit.ly/3CE1Ahj>

Yes! You Can Plan a Club or County Activity!

December '21/January '22



As many of us create resolutions for the new year, it's important that our clubs and project groups do, too. I think every member—youth and adult—in every club or project should have the opportunity to grow their skills by participating in an all-county event or workshop. Recently, I've been asked, "How do we get more county wide workshops or trainings? Or, could we have more programs in other parts of the county?" The answers to these questions are all YES!

Yes, we can have more programs!

Yes, we can move programs around to local communities in our county!

But we need YOU to step up and plan them. More activities will help our families to feel like they belong. Youth and adults planning activities will have a voice into what can be done and how it will be done. Lincoln County 4-H is run by it's volunteers.

If you are ready to plan and lead a county wide program but not sure how to start, contact me, I'm happy to help.

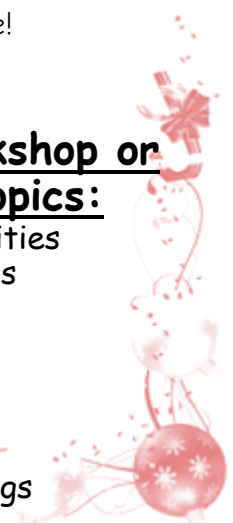
Together, we can bring Lincoln County 4-H to everyone!

Holly Luerksen, 4-H Educator



Possible Workshop or Activity Topics:

- Older Youth Activities
- Cloverbud Meetings
- Project Meetings
- Archery
- Arts & Crafts
- Holiday Themed
- Family Activities
- Leadership Trainings





Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
LINCOLN COUNTY



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Penalty for Private Use, \$300

RETURN ADDRESS REQUESTED

Lincoln County 4-H Programs (county, club and groups) are automatically canceled if, in Lincoln County or the county where the event is scheduled to occur:

1. Schools close early or are canceled

OR

2. the National Weather Service has issued a **WEATHER WARNING (Winter Storm, Wind Chill, Tornado, Blizzard or Severe Thunderstorm Warning) for that county.**

