



Jefferson County 4-H Newsletter

UW-MADISON EXTENSION

April 2024

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Jefferson County Extension Office

Open Monday – Friday:
8:00am - 4:30pm

Jerry Wilcenski

4-H Program Educator

wilcenski@wisc.edu

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Welcome, Meghan!

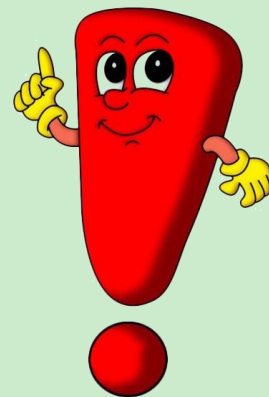
Meet Meghan - Meghan is our new administrative assistant here in the Extension Office! We are so excited to have Meghan as a part of our team! You can contact Meghan via phone 920-674-7297 or email msplinter@jeffersoncountywi.gov to give her a warm welcome! Read all about Meghan below.



Hello! My name is Meghan Splinter! I live in Ixonia on a little farm where I raise sheep and beef with my parents. Some things that I enjoy doing are farming, being outside, playing sports, crafting and spending time with my family and friends. I have been involved in 4-H since I was a clover bud. I am currently a 4-H volunteer and serve on the Livestock Education Committee. I am super excited to work with the community in Jefferson County!

4-H Project Changes—Due April 15

Project changes (adding or subtracting projects) are due in 4HOnline by April 15. We would encourage EVERYONE to double check their projects in 4HOnline. With the transition to the new 4HOnline program not all projects were transferred over. In order to receive project communications you need to be enrolled in the certain project in 4HOnline. View the directions to view and edit your projects in 4HOnline [here!](#)



April 2024 4-H CALENDAR

For a complete list of dates and events please visit the online 4-H Calendar. ([Click here for calendar](#))

Date	Time	Meeting	Location
April 1	6:00pm	Dog Project Meeting: New Youth & Dogs	Fair Park
April 1	7:00pm	Dog Project Meeting: Returning Youth & Dogs	Fair Park
April 2	6:30pm	Rabbit Project	Extension Office
April 2	7:00pm	Horse Committee Meeting	Extension Office
April 4	6:30pm	Poultry Project Meeting	Extension Office
April 6	9:00am-1:00pm	JCHP Vaccination Clinic	Fair Park
April 7	2:00pm	Food4ward: Grains	Extension Office
April 7	4:00pm	Outdoor Shooting Sports Safety Meeting	Watertown Conservation Club
April 8	6:00pm	Dog Project Meeting: New Youth & Dogs	Fair Park
April 8	7:00pm	Dog Project Meeting: Returning Youth & Dogs	Fair Park
April 9	6:00pm	Livestock Record Book Training	Extension Office
April 9	7:00pm	Livestock Committee Meeting	Extension Office
April 11	6:30pm	Rocketry Project Meeting	Extension Office
April 15		Newsletter Items Due to Katelyn	
April 15		All project changes due in 4HOnline	
April 15		Leaders Board Apps Due to EXT	
April 15	6:00pm	Dog Project Meeting: New Youth & Dogs	Fair Park
April 15	7:00pm	Dog Project Meeting: Returning Youth & Dogs	Fair Park
April 16	6:30pm	Goat Project Meeting	Extension Office
April 16	7:00pm	JCHP Countywide Meeting	Fair Park
April 18	6:30pm	Leaders Board Meeting	Extension Office
April 22	5:00pm	Dog Project Meeting—Fun Night	Fair Park
April 23	7:00pm	Junior Leaders Meeting	Extension Office
April 25	6:30pm	Rocketry Project Meeting	Extension Office
April 29	6:00pm	Dog Project Meeting: New Youth & Dogs	Fair Park
April 29	7:00pm	Dog Project Meeting: Returning Youth & Dogs	Fair Park
April 29	7:00pm	Dairy Committee Meeting	Extension Office
April 30	6:00pm	Lego Project Meeting	Extension Office



PROJECT NEWS

Information for specific projects is listed in this section. If you need help with a project not listed please call the EXT Office at 920-674-7295. Projects are listed in alphabetical order. If you want to lead a countywide project please contact the Extension Office for more information.

(Click here for online 4-H calendar)

Cat Project

The next Cat Project meeting of the year will be held on May 7 at 6:00pm at the Fair Park

Meetings will be held:

- May 7 - 6:00pm - Fair Park
- June 4 - 6:00pm - Fair Park

If you have questions about the cat project, contact Emilie Shoop at eshoop@gmail.com or (309) 473-3083.

Cloverbud Project

The last Cloverbud Project Meeting of the year will be held on May 20 at 6:00pm at the Fair Park. At this meeting youth will learn about animal projects we offer in 4-H and there will be a petting zoo.

Cloverbuds who have not participated in the project this year are more than welcome to sign up. The fee for this project meeting is \$10. You can sign up here: <https://forms.gle/U1pT4mMcyipsTdc55>

Dairy Project

The next Dairy Committee Meeting will be held on April 29 at 7:00pm at the Extension Office.

James Crowley Award: The James W. Crowley 4-H Dairy Leadership Award program provides recognition to youth who have excelled in their dairy project. The Crowley Dairy Management and Extension Fund is the sponsor of this award in honor and memory of James W. Crowley, longtime Extension Dairy Specialist and strong supporter of dairy youth projects.

To be eligible:

- Must be currently enrolled in the 4-H Dairy Project and have at least two previous years of membership.
- Must be in 10th-12th grades as of January 1, 2024.
- Should have an outstanding record of involvement and accomplishments in the 4-H Dairy Project.

Applications for the James Crowley Scholarship are due by April 1, 2024. [You can find the scholarship application here!](#)

Dairy Tours: On April 6 dairy youth and families are invited to attend the dairy farm tour to Sunshine Genetics and Larson Acres. [Go here for more details and to register!](#)

Emil's Pizza Fundraiser: Dairy youth have until April 15 to sell pizzas. Pizza pick up dates will be May 3 and 4.

Dairy Project Learning Day: This will take place on May 4 at the Fair Park from 8:00am-4:00pm. More details to come!

Mandatory Dairy Meeting: This meeting is set for June 25 at 6:30pm at the Fair Park for all project members that are

planning to show Dairy at the 2024 Jefferson County Fair.

Dog Project

The upcoming Dog Project Meetings in March are as follow:
New Members/Dogs - 6pm - April 1, 8, 15, 29
Returning Members/Dogs - 7pm - April 1, 8, 15, 29

The Dog Project will have their Fun Night Meeting on April 22 starting at 5:00pm at the Fair Park.

In case of bad weather and we cancel the meeting it will be on our Facebook page Jefferson Co. 4H Dog Project and will email your 4H listed email account. I would suggest liking our Facebook page most updates are posted on this page.

If you have questions about the dog project, contact Kate Anderson at (920) 723-3614 or 2mtmanderson@gmail.com.

Horse & Pony Project

The next Horse Committee Meeting is on April 2 at 7:00pm at the Extension Office.

The JCHP Vaccination Clinic will be held on April 6 from 9:00am-1:00pm at the Fair Park. [Sign Up Here!](#)

The next JCHP Countywide Meeting is on April 16 at 7:00pm at the Fair Park.

If you have questions about the horse project, contact the JCHP Committee at jchpchair@gmail.com.

Lego Project

The next Lego Project Meeting is April 30 at 6:00pm at the Extension Office.

If you have questions about the Lego project, contact Cheryl Mierendorf at 920-723-5138 or candshorsemanship@yahoo.com

Livestock Project

Includes: beef, dairy, goat, poultry, rabbit, sheep and swine.

The next Livestock Committee Meeting is on April 9 at 7:00pm at the Extension Office.

Upcoming Meetings:

- April 2—6:30pm—Rabbit Project Meeting—EXT
- April 4—6:30pm—Poultry Project Meeting—EXT
- April 9—7pm—Livestock Committee Meeting—EXT
- April 16—6:30pm—Goat Project Meeting—EXT
- April 21—12:00pm—Livestock Meat Raffle—The Real MacCoy's
- April 28—10:00am—Sheep Project Learning Day—Grand View Showstock

PROJECT NEWS

Natural Sciences Project

Natural Science Projects include Beekeeping, Birds, Insects, Fishing, Forestry, Wildflowers, Hunting & Wildlife, Adventures, and Environmental projects.

Call or email, 920-650-7110 or rwses@idcnet.com with question, comments or concerns.

Plants & Soils Project

Plant and Soils Projects include these project areas – Crops, Vegetables, Flowers, House plants and Plant Crafts.

Call or email, 920-650-7110 or rwses@idcnet.com with question, comments or concerns.

Rocketry

The next Rocketry Project meetings are April 11 and 25 at 6:30 p.m. at the Extension Office.

Youth must be able to safely use an X-acto type knife or be accompanied by an adult who can assist them. In addition to making rockets from kits, youth will have the opportunity to make rockets from scratch.

Project Leaders will be Roald Ager-Hart and Brett Hart. Please call 920-674-4963 with any questions!

Shooting Sports

The Outdoor Shooting Sports Safety Meeting will be held on April 7 at 4:00pm at the Watertown Conservation Club.

If you have questions about the shooting sports project, contact David Saxby at jeffersonwi4hshootingsports@gmail.com

LEADER NEWS

Leader's Board Meeting

The next Leader's Board meeting is Thursday, April 18 at 6:30pm at the Extension Office.

If you are interested in serving on the Jefferson County 4-H Leaders Board - nomination forms are due to the Extension Office by April 15. [Leaders Board Nomination Form](#) *Note: Candidates must be members in good standing who have served as a leader for at least one year immediately preceding the election.*

Leader's Association Meeting

The next Leaders Association meeting is Thursday, May 16 at 6:30pm at the Extension Office. All leaders (certified volunteers) are highly encouraged and welcome to attend! Parents and youth are also welcome!

Countywide Project Leadership Needed

There are many projects that are offered by the Jefferson County 4-H Program - 70 to be exact! Please refer to Page 12 to see which projects have Countywide Leaders. All other projects do not. If you are interested in becoming a Countywide Project Leader, there are many opportunities that

exist. If you are interested, please contact the EXT Office for more details. Thank you in advance for your consideration!

OLDER MEMBERS

Junior Leaders

The next Junior Leaders meeting is on April 23 at 7:00pm at the Extension Office! Junior Leaders is for youth in 6th -12th grades. Any 4-H member in those grades is welcome to join our group!

If you have any questions, please contact Alyssa at 920-723-9039 (call/text) or jakewith07@yahoo.com.

CLUB NEWS

Farmington All Stars

The Farmington All-Stars 4-H Club met March 5 at the Farmington Town Hall.

Club members voted to move the regularly scheduled April meeting to Friday, April 5.

On that evening, the club will tie blankets for charity, share activities related to different 4-H projects, and have a pizza supper.

The club is also inviting Lindsey (Knoebel) Baneck of Jelli's Market to speak to the club about the spring flower and vegetable sale, which has served as our club fundraiser for many years.

Finally, the club reviewed upcoming activities, including a scheduled "Earth Day" roadside cleanup April 20.

- Michael Wilson, Reporter

Ideal Clever Clovers

For the March 2024 Ideal Clever Clovers Club meeting we met at the Fort Atkinson Library.

We discussed old business including our members participation in the Bake Off, Project Learning Day, and other project meetings.

We discussed how we will not be able to volunteer at the Jefferson County Dairy Breakfast this year, so we are planning a different a community service project for May.

We also discussed plans for the Jefferson County Fair.

The Ideal Clever Clovers April Meeting is scheduled for April 13 at 10:30 am at the Fort Atkinson Library.

- Aleksander Becker & Julia Turritin-Johnson, Co-Reporters

Ixonia Victory

At the Ixonia Victory 4-H meeting called to order on February 5 member brought socks for the Watertown Gosling Nest sock drive. We also made valentines cards for the residents at Heritage Homes. Our club started a flower fundraiser this



month. At the upcoming meeting on March 4 we are stuffing eggs for the Ixonia Easter Egg Hunt and we will be helping with setting up the hunt.

- Addison Strobel, Reporter

Lake Ripley

The Lake Ripley 4-H Club February meeting was held on Sunday, February 18 at 6:30 p.m. at the Amundson Center in Cambridge. Members confirmed details for the roller skating winter activity. Members that attended Project Learning Day talked about the classes that they took. Members that delivered valentines to the assisted living facility in Cambridge talked about their experience. The clover buds showed members their bouncy balls that they made. Members are asked to bring a wish list item to the March meeting for the Jefferson County Humane Society. For the member activity, members learned heart health facts and participated in heart healthy exercises.

- Scott Mehringer, Reporter



Stone School

Stone School members had a great time at the March meeting testing their luck playing Bingo! Members won some tasty treats and 4-H swag!



4-H CAMP

Jefferson County 4-H Members—It's time to register for Dane County 4-H Camp! We are planning a fantastic activities for youth in Grades 3-8. [Register Today!](#)

Not sure what 4-H Camp is all about? [Check out this fun Dane County video!](#)

All the details and the registration portal can be found on the [Dane County 4-H Camp page](#).

Camp takes place at Upham Woods Outdoor Learning Center in the WI Dells. Youth will experience 3 nights/4 days of fun camp activities, crafts, field games, campfire, swimming, nature walks, games and more. They will connect with the outdoors, try new activities, and make new friends.

Invite your friends to come to camp. Not in 4-H? No problem, we welcome all youth!

- Grades 3-5 – July 24-27, 2024
- Grades 6-8 – July 27-30, 2024

Dane County 4-H Member - \$220, General Camp Rate - \$270

Deadline is June 3, 2024 or when camp fills.

Reach out if you have any questions 4Hinfo@countyofdane.com.
The Dane County 4-H Camp Committee

STATEWIDE EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom Essay Contest

The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation - Ag in the Classroom Essay Contest is an opportunity for fourth and fifth grade students to explore Wisconsin history, geography, and economics through the lens of Wisconsin Agriculture. An annual essay prompt challenges students to research and write an informative essay. The contest supports Wisconsin academic standards including English Language Arts and Social Studies. Top essays are recognized at the county, district, and state levels. The generous support of sponsors and volunteers make this learning opportunity possible each year.

The essay contest gleans the annual theme from the 2024 Wisconsin Agriculture in the Classroom Book of the Year, I Love Strawberries!, by Shannon Anderson.

This year's essay contest focuses on our state's sweetest agriculture industry - fruit! Wisconsin is the number one producer of cranberries and is a leader in the production of cherries, apples, and strawberries. Our state's history, communities and economy have been brought to fruit-ion through agriculture endeavors.

[View the full contest details here!](#)

Multi-State "Hit Me with Your Best Shot" 4-H Photo Contest

Minnesota 4-H Photography is excited to offer another multi-state photography contest open to youth in grades K-13!

Select your best photo (with no or minimal editing) and submit it with up to two sentences that explains why it's special to you! More information and rules for the challenge can be found at: [4-H Hit Me with Your Best Shot Photo Contest](#)

[UMN Extension](#) with rules available [here](#).

Submit one (1) jpg or jpeg image and statement to fourhphoto@umn.edu by 11:59 p.m. (CST) on May 1, 2024. Volunteer 4-H photography judges will provide feedback via a slideshow. Top photos will be recognized with a prize and random prize drawing winners will also receive a gift.

Register at: <https://z.umn.edu/2024BestShot4HPhotoContest>

Questions? Email fourhphoto@umn.edu.

SCHOLARSHIPS & GRANTS

Jefferson County WFTD Scholarship

The Executive Committee of the 2019 Jefferson County Wisconsin Farm Technology Days show has announced that applications are now being accepted for their fifth round of student scholarships.

This scholarship is open to any student who is a high school senior. The applicant must be planning to attend a Farm & Industry Short Course, a technical college or four-year university and be majoring in agricultural studies.

The application and guidelines can be found at <https://jefferson.extension.wisc.edu/agriculture/farm-technology-days/>

Applications will be accepted through April 1, 2024.

For questions about the application process, please email kbroedlow@jeffersoncountywi.gov.

Jefferson County Farm Bureau Scholarship

Jefferson County Farm Bureau is now accepting applications for its annual scholarship program. The scholarship is available to graduating high school and current college/technical school students who will continue their education in 2024-2025. The purpose of this scholarship is to provide financial assistance toward the cost of higher education.

To be eligible, students must be the son or daughter of a Jefferson County Farm Bureau member and pursuing higher education from an accredited college, university, or technical school. Applications are due on April 1 and are available at local high schools or from the Jefferson County Farm Bureau webpage. www.wfbf.com/countyfarmbureaus/jefferson

Jefferson County Farm Bureau has maintained strong support for community and youth programs and is one of the 61 county Farm Bureau organizations that make up the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation (WFBF). WFBF is the state's largest general farm organization representing farms of different sizes, commodities, and management styles.

Scott E. Skalitzy Memorial Scholarship

The Scott E. Skalitzy Memorial Scholarship has been established to deserving graduates to continue their education in the areas of: Agriculture, Mechanics, Natural Sciences or any area of Medical. [For more details and the application click here!](#)

Wisconsin Towns Association Scholarship

Your thoughts – combined with your writing skills and creativity – can put you in line to receive one of seven scholarships. [Rural Mutual Insurance Company](#), Wisconsin Towns Association, and [Scott Construction](#), Inc. are again offering the following scholarships to winners of an essay contest. Scholarships will be awarded on the following basis:

Two (2) **\$1,000** scholarships will be awarded to the students with the highest-ranking essay score from a town or village insured by Rural Mutual Insurance Company as of May 1, 2024. Five (5) **\$1,000** scholarships will be awarded to the top five additional students with the highest ranking essay scores.

All applicants must graduate from a Wisconsin public or private high school in 2024 and plan to attend a Wisconsin public or private college or university in 2024. Essays will be judged independently on originality and subject matter in relation to the topic. The essays must also contain correct spelling, grammar, and punctuation. Judging will be completed by August 9, 2024. Recipients will be announced by August 23, 2024. Proof of enrollment in a Wisconsin public or private college is required to receive a scholarship. View complete details [here](#).

Submit your essay along with [this background information sheet](#) to sandy.wanta@wiscetowns.com or W7686 Co. Rd. MMM, Shawano, WI 54166.

2024 Scholarship Topic: *"What strategies can be implemented by town officials in collaboration with citizens to maintain civility in local government?"*

4-H COMMUNICATIONS

4-H Family Newsletter

The 4-H Family Newsletter is a source of information for families to learn about opportunities, activities, workshops, deadlines and other information about Jefferson County 4-H. Leaders and members may submit articles. The newsletter is assembled and distributed through the EXT Office. The newsletter also serves as the essential source of information for Jefferson County Fair, Meat Animal Project Committee (MAP) and other important project and activities.

If you are hosting a project meeting, activity or event that the entire county would benefit from, please be sure to submit your article to the EXT Office by the 15th of each month. This includes any project meeting dates, community service or fundraisers that might be relevant to members outside your club. This is an easy way to help grow your programs and events. Spread the word! Please note the EXT Office may edit submissions based on newsletter space.

Weekly Clover Connection

The Clover Connection is sent via email through 4honline each week usually on Mondays. The Clover Connection includes important information for the upcoming week. Please watch your email each week for important news and changes. *Note: If you "unsubscribe" to these emails, you will NOT receive any emails through 4honline.*

4-H Calendar

For up to date information on what is happening in 4-H, check

out the [4-H Calendar](#). Dates are being added, changed, or cancelled all the time. Watch the calendar for updates!

JEFFERSON CO. FAIR NEWS

Are you a new family in the Jefferson County 4-H program? Are you a returning family but not receiving updates from the Jefferson County Fair Park? If you answered yes to either of these questions, please contact the Jefferson County Fair Park to make sure you are on their Information Receiving List. [Sign up for updates here!](#) This ensures that you will receive the most up-to-date information on the 2024 Jefferson County Fair and the exhibiting requirements. The Jefferson County Fair Park can be reached at 920-674-7148 or info@jcfairpark.com Jefferson County Fair Park Website: <https://www.jcfairpark.com>

Jefferson County Livestock Educational Committee

MEAT RAFFLE

Sunday, April 21st - 12pm-2pm

**The Real MacCoy's
N1431 County Road N
Whitewater, WI 53190**

All meat was locally raised by Jefferson County Youth!

COME OUT AND SUPPORT THE
JEFFERSON COUNTY 4-H LIVESTOCK PROJECT!

SHEEP PROJECT

LEARNING DAY

APRIL 28

10:00 A.M.-

12:00 P.M.

- Nutrition
- Fair Ready Sheep
- Animal Fitting
- Showmanship

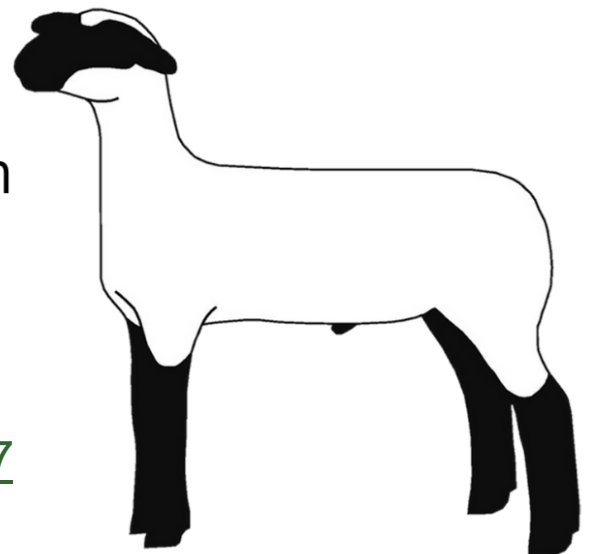
*Please don't bring your own animals.

Sign Up Here

<https://forms.gle/iL623QwTU35TBrZk7>

.....
Grand View Showstock
N4171 County Road G
Fort Atkinson, WI 53538
.....

- Open to the youth of Jefferson County.
- Parents are encouraged to stay.



DIRECTORY

Leader's Association Board

Name	Club	Phone
Melissa Gerner, President	Lake Ripley	920-723-8660
Susie Schuld, Past President	Twin Rivers	920-988-8166
Cindy Jaquith, President Elect	Stone School	920-723-9517
Deb Ebel, Secretary	Jefferson Boosters	715-563-2986
Becki Durkee, Treasurer	Lake Ripley	608-444-4509
Angie Greving, Director	Farmington All Stars	608-295-4959
Heather Reu, Director	Stone School	262-812-3236
Lisa Small, Director	Ixonia Victory	920-285-7204
Rachel Thom, Director	Country Roots	920-728-5144
Karen Gefvert, Director	Rock River Clovers	608-617-2772

Countywide Project Leaders

Project	Name	Phone
Cats	Emilie Shoop	309-473-3083
Clothing	Kimberly Kreger	920-723-1191
Dairy	Zach Tolzman	
Dogs	Kate Anderson	920-728-3614
Foods	Monica Gerner	920-723-2663
Goats	Contact the Extension Office	
Horse & Pony	Jenn Olson	jchpchair@gmail.com
Junior Leaders	Alyssa Jaquith	920-723-9039
Lego	Cheryl Mierendorf	920-723-5138
Livestock	Justin Thom	262-490-1313
Plant & Natural Sciences	Sharon Schweitzer	920-650-7110
Poultry	Joy Brattlie	608-220-3933
Rabbits	Joy Brattlie	608-220-3933
Rocketry (Aerospace)	Brett/Roald Ager-Hart	920-674-4963
Shooting Sports	David Saxby	jeffersonwi4hshootingsports@gmail.com

Extension Jefferson County Staff

Name	Program Area	Phone	Email
Katelyn Broedlow	Support Staff—Administrative Specialist	920-674-7440	kbroedlow@jeffersoncountywi.gov
Meghan Splinter	Support Staff—Administrative Assistant	920-674-7297	msplinter@jeffersoncountywi.gov
Jerry Wilcenski	4-H Program Educator	920-674-7299	wilcenski@wisc.edu
Steven Chmielewski	Community Development Educator	262-548-7781	steven.chmielewski@wisc.edu
Alison Pfau	Regional Dairy Educator	920-674-7298	alison.pfau@wisc.edu
Lisa Krolow	FoodWise Program Coordinator	262-741-4957	lisa.krolow@wisc.edu
Chrissy Wen	Area Extension Director	262-741-4951	christine.wen@wisc.edu
Josh Kamps	Regional Crops Educator		joshua.kamps@wisc.edu