



Jefferson County 4-H Newsletter

UW-MADISON EXTENSION

September 2025

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Jefferson County Extension Office

Open Monday – Friday:
8:00am - 4:30pm

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Congratulations Jefferson County Livestock Judging Team!

The Jefferson County 4-H junior and senior livestock judging teams competed in the Area Animal Science Days (AASD) on June 30th in Chilton and the State 4-H Livestock Judging contest on July 21st in Lodi. Jefferson County had 27 4-H members who judged this year. Jefferson County had the most livestock judges of any county at the AASD.

The junior team members were: Gavin Boettcher, Greylen Boettcher, Gretta Boettcher, Jacob Beauchamp, Gracelyn Bishop, Nate Flood, Fynnley Gefvert, Piper Gefvert, Mallory Gefvert, Hayden Gevert, Ella Greving, Elliot Hanus, Hayley Reu, Cheyenne Pautz, Carter Pernat.

The senior team members were: Aubrey Beauchamp, Rylee Brattlie, Megan Doherty, Gracelyn Dolph, Olivia Dolph, Peyton Greving, Kya Kelleher, Aiden Mindemann, Gabe Mindemann, Keilah Reu, Elliott Small, Vivian Stahl.

At the AASD, the junior team of Ella Greving, Gavin Boettcher, Nate Flood, and Fynnley Gefvert placed 4th. Ella Greving placed 10th individually. The senior team of Elliott Small, Vivian Stahl, Gabe Mindemann, and Aiden Mindemann placed 2nd. Elliott Small placed 5th individually. In reasons, the senior team placed first and individually-Gabe Mindemann placed 1st, Aiden Mindemann placed 4th, and Elliott Small placed 9th. Both teams advanced to the state contest.

At the State 4-H contest, the junior team placed 3rd overall. Gavin Boettcher placed 1st individually overall. The team placed 4th in beef, sheep and goats, and reasons. Gavin Boettcher placed 1st in beef and reasons, 3rd in sheep and goats. Fynnley Gefvert placed 8th in sheep and goats.

The senior team placed 2nd overall. Aiden Mindemann placed first overall individually. Gabe Mindemann placed 4th, Elliott Small placed 10th and Vivian Stahl placed 11th. The team placed 1st in reasons and sheep and goats, 2nd in beef, and 3rd in swine. Individually, Aiden placed 2nd in beef and reasons, 3rd in sheep and goats, Gabe Mindemann placed 1st in reasons, 2nd in swine, 5th in sheep and goats, Elliott Small placed 4th in sheep and goats and 5th in reasons. The senior team earned a livestock judging rip to the National Western Livestock Show in January 2026 in Denver Colorado.

A special thank you to the following farms and individuals for their help in providing practice livestock and their livestock knowledge at the livestock judging practices: Leah & Andy Mindemann, Laura Monson, Hannah Schultz, Brad & Karen Gefvert, Jelli's Market-Libby Haften & Lindsay Baneck, Aric & Kory Mindemann, Pautz farm, Splinter Six far-Meghan & Cheryl Splinter, Gwen Boettcher.



September 2025 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
September 1		EXT Office Closed	
September 2		Livestock Project Point Cards Due	Extension Office
September 2		4-H Awards Due	Extension Office
September 3	7:00pm	Horse Committee Meeting	Extension Office
September 4	4:30pm	4-H Open House	Extension Office
September 5		Brat Sale Order Forms Due	Extension Office
September 9	7:00pm	Livestock Committee Meeting	Extension Office
September 15		Project Grant Applications Due	
September 15		Newsletter Items Due to Katelyn	Extension Office
September 16	7:00pm	Horse & Pony Countywide Project Meeting	Fair Park
September 18	6:30pm	Leaders Board Meeting	Extension Office
September 23	7:00pm	Junior Leaders Meeting	Extension Office
September 29	7:00pm	Dairy Committee Meeting	Extension Office



4-H AWARDS & BANQUET INFORMATION

Save the Date! The 4-H Awards Banquet is scheduled for Sunday, October 19 at 3pm at the Fair Park! Registration required—<https://forms.gle/WaTBLtPDzHX4jTVPA>

Awards Banquet Program Cover Contest

Calling All 4-H member! Do you like to draw? Would you like your art work showcased at the countywide level? Here's your chance to help design the Program Cover for the upcoming 4-H Awards Banquet! We are looking for hand-drawn (not digital) cover art that features our theme "Beyond Ready". All drawings should be 8 1/2 x 11 and must be submitted to the Leaders Board via the UWEX no later than September 15th. Winner will be selected at the September Board meeting.

Clover Award

Anyone in 4-H can apply and receive a Clover Award just by participating! The Clover Award program recognizes 4-H members for the things they do in 4-H. By participating in activities members earn points towards five levels of recognition. If you are doing things in 4-H start filling out your Clover Award today! You can earn a Clover Award in one year, or it may take a couple of years. The more active you are the easier it is to get points. Check out the easy to complete application by clicking here - [Clover Award Application](#). Applications are due September 1st.

Project Award

Apply for a Project Award! You may apply for up to 3 project awards per year. Please continue to use whatever method you want to show your growth and leadership in a particular project area. You can make a video, do a scrapbook, write a speech, make a display or be as creative as you want. Project Awards are separate from Record Book Awards. [Project Award Applications](#) are due September 1st.

Officer Books

Officer Books Club officers - Treasurer, Secretary, Reporter/Historian are encouraged to keep a record book throughout the year of the club's happenings. Sample books are available at the EXT Office or on the [website](#). They are due to the EXT office by September 1st.

Key Award

The 4-H Key Award is intended to be the top honor a county can give to any 4-H member. The Wisconsin 4-H Key Award recognizes 4-H participants who have demonstrated consistent growth in their 4-H involvement, developed and applied their leadership skills, and actively participated in the functions of their 4-H club and community. Older 4-H members are encouraged to apply for the 4-H key award. The application is based on participation in activities, an essay showing how 4-H has helped you to gain life skills and the completion of a leadership project. If you are interested in applying or at least starting the application process please contact the Extension Office. Key Award applications are due September 1st.

Record Book Award

Every 4-H member is highly encouraged to complete their year with a Record Book. Please check with your club, as some clubs have a Record Book requirement. Youth wishing to participate in the Record Book Award must have their Record Book turned in to the EXT Office by September 1st. Your club leader can bring it in, or you can bring it in as an individual. Click here for the [Member Record Book](#). Click here for the [Cloverbud Record Book](#).

Nominations Sought for 4-H Volunteers

This year we will be awarding TWO Volunteer Awards at the Awards Celebration. The "Volunteer of the Year Award" (a volunteer 10 years or less) and "Lifetime Volunteer of the Year Award" (A volunteer over 10 years of service). Often leaders are not comfortable nominating themselves, but each of us has worked with some outstanding volunteers. Click here for the [Volunteer of the Year Nomination Form](#). Click here for [Lifetime Volunteer of the Year Nomination Form](#). Nominations are due by September 1st.

Friend of 4-H Award

We are looking for individuals and businesses who go above and beyond to help the 4-H program through their donations of service, time, money, etc. Do you know of someone who is not a leader or member but does so much for 4-H? Or someone who is a leader or member but does things for 4-H as part of their occupation? Nominate them for the Friend of 4-H Award. We get few nominations each year and want to make sure our supporters know how much we appreciate them. Click here for the [Friend of 4-H Nomination Form](#). Nominations are due by September 1st.

Green and Gold Award

Do you have a volunteer, youth or adult, in your club that goes above and beyond? Nominate them for the Green and Gold Award. This award may be given to youth and certified leaders within your club that have demonstrated a consistent effort of volunteer services to their club, county, project and/or the association. Adult volunteers must be certified leaders with Jefferson County 4-H. Click here for the [Green and Gold Nomination Form](#). Nominations are due by September 1st.

4-H Community Servant Award

"My Hands to Larger Service"

The 2nd H in the 4-H Pledge is about pledging our hands to service. 4-H clubs (and members) who complete Community Service events in the name of 4-H should be honored for the things they do. Each club should complete the "My Hands to Larger Service" log to record the things that club members and your club as a whole do throughout the year. The clubs with the highest percentage of involvement will receive a monetary award. Each club who completes the log will be honored for their service. Click here for the ["My Hands to Larger Service" Community Service Log & Awards Form](#).

4-H ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

4-H Open House

We are hosting a 4-H Open House on September 4 at the Extension Office from 4:30pm-7:00 pm! This is our main recruitment event for new members, but we also welcome returning 4-H'ers to come and explore a new project. We also need clubs and groups to volunteer at this event to show off our program to the community! Let your club or group leader know if you are interested in helping us with Open House!

4-H Enrollment

All 4-H enrollments are completed ONLINE. All new and returning members and leaders will need to enroll online. Go to <http://wi.4honline.com> to start the enrollment process.

Enrollment begins September 5, 2025

If you need assistance with enrolling in 4-H, please contact the Ext office. We will put you in touch with resources to help make this process as smooth as possible. The resource documents that are listed below are available under the [enrollment tab on the website](#).

4-H Program Guide

4-H Program Guide found on our website:
<https://jefferson.extension.wisc.edu/files/2025/08/Jefferson-County-4-H-Program-Guide-2025-2026.pdf>

4-H Dues

4-H members pay dues to the Jefferson County Leader's Association and Jefferson County for programming and supplies. The Leader's Association dues are \$10 per youth. The Jefferson County dues are \$20 per youth. **NEW this year** - there no longer will be a sliding scale for families. All youth members will cost a flat fee. This change was made in order to add the option of online payment—coming soon! Cash or check are still acceptable forms of payment. If there are any question about the dues, please contact the Extension Office.

New Members

Any new families that are interested in joining Jefferson County 4-H are asked to contact the Jefferson County EXT Office at (920)674-7295 for information. There are New Family Packets available that include helpful information about enrolling in the program and all the opportunities through 4-H.

WE'RE MOVING...



OUT OF THE STONE AGE

4-H DUES CAN NOW BE PAID ONLINE

- Dues will move to a flat fee per child
- Dues for 2025-2026 will be \$30*

*\$20 for County Enrollment and \$10 to the Leader's Association

You can still pay by cash or check
at the UW Extension Office

Scholarships are available if you are unable to pay dues
please contact the UW Extension Office at (920) 674-7295

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.

[\(Click here for online 4-H calendar\)](#)

Cloverbud Project

Are you in 5K-2nd grade and interested in seeing what 4-H is all about? Join our Cloverbud Project! We will explore different areas of what 4-H has to offer.

We're so excited to be hosting Cloverbud meetings again this 4-H year. After most of the meetings, we'll send your Cloverbud home with a few more activities to extend their learning about the topic. Registration is required—watch for an email with the registration link and cost coming soon!

Cloverbud Meetings will be held at 6:00pm at the Extension Office one Monday a month during the months of October, November, January, March and May.

- Monday, October 20 - 6:00pm— Extension Office
- Monday, November 17— 6:00pm— Extension Office
- Monday, January 19 - 6:00pm— Extension Office
- Monday, March 16 - 6:00pm— Extension Office
- Monday, May 18 - 6:00pm— Fair Park

Have questions? Reach out to the Extension Office at 920-674-7295.

Dairy Project

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

Dog Project

Watch for info in the 2025-2026 4-H year!

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

Horse Project

Our JCHP Banquet was a success and a great way to wrap up the 2024-2025 year!

This fall, JCHP will be changing to a Special Interest Club. This means you now have the ability to enroll in JCHP as a stand-alone club, along with some membership requirements (to be discussed at September Kickoff Meeting!)

Voting for our 4 open Youth Board spots coming soon, check your email!

Congratulations to our Point Card High Point winners, who will get to ride in a Daniel Stewart clinic later this fall. Winners include Aubree, Celia, Maisy, Bea, Gracie, Analisa, Benji, Norah, Bailey, Kinsley, Annabelle, and Brinley.

Upcoming dates:

Sept 1-Drill Team Performance at Walworth Fair
Sept 6-State Gymkhana

Sept 12-14-State Expo



Lego Project

Watch for info in the 2025-2026 4-H year!

If you have questions about the Lego project, contact Charles Johnson crjohnson.51510@gmail.com or 920-342-9783.

Livestock Project

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

The next Livestock Committee Meeting will be held on September 9 at 7:00pm at the Extension Office.

Upcoming Dates:

- October 14—Beef Kick-Off Meeting—7pm—EXT
- October 15—Livestock Awards—6:30pm—Fair Park
- November 4—Rabbit Kick-Off Meeting—6pm—EXT
- November 4—Poultry Kick-Off Meeting—7pm—EXT
- November 6—Goat Kick-Off Meeting—6:30pm—EXT
- November 7—Spark Days Meats Judging—drop off at EXT by 4pm.

Natural Science Project

Watch for info in the 2025-2026 4-H year!

If you have questions about the Natural Science project, contact Sharon at 920-650-7110 or rwses@idcnet.com.

Plant & Soil Science Project

Include these project areas – Crops, Vegetables, Flowers, House Plants and Plant Crafts

All 4-H members and families are welcome to attend any or all meetings, activities and events for learning and enjoyment.

Thursday, Sept 04 – 4:30-7 pm. 4-H Open House is for all 4-H members & friends at the Jefferson Co Ext Office.

Come to the 4-H Open House and see what you can grow. **Ask** questions, **do** an activity and **learn** about the project possibilities.

There will be project **examples** and some **sample activities** to **do** and **take** home. **What kind of plants, gardens, or crops would you enjoy growing or learning about?**

Projects can be **planting** and **growing** crops, garden vegetables and flowers. Learn which house plants are easy to grow or use in creating a simple dish garden, or a fairy or farm garden. Or choose an interesting specimen plant to grow.

Exotic Plants, Gardening in Small Places, or Helping Pollinators all can be special projects. Ask your club leader if you can plan and **have a club plant activity** at a club meeting.

Also **drying** plant materials and using them in **crafts** can be a fun project.

September is a great **time to** gather seeds and seed pods, tree cones or nuts for a variety of **ID projects** or **Holiday Arrangements**. Dividing perennials or planting bulbs are two more great plant activity projects for September.

Share your thoughts or ask questions at the **4-H Open House, Thursday, Sept 4th**.

Text 920-650-7110 or **email**, rwes@idcnet.com with question, comments or concerns.

Rocketry Project

Watch for info in the 2025-2026 4-H year!

Questions? Reach out to the Extension Office at 920-674-7295.

Shooting Sports

Watch for info in the 2025-2026 4-H year!

If you have questions about the shooting sports project, contact David Saxby at jeffersonwi4hshootingssports@gmail.com

LEADER NEWS

Leaders Board Meeting

The next Leader's Board Meeting is on Thursday, September 18 at 6:30pm at the Extension Office.

Leaders Association Meeting

The next Leader's Association Meeting is on Thursday, October 16 at 6:30pm at the Extension Office.

OLDER MEMBERS

Junior Leaders

The next Junior Leaders meeting is on September 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 met July 12 in the camping area of the Jefferson County Fair Park for a pizza party.

The party was cut short when there was a tornado warning and everyone was asked to either leave the fairgrounds or take shelter.

The August meeting was cancelled to accommodate members who had qualified for the Wisconsin State Fair, which was going on at the same time.

The next meeting will take place Sept. 9 at the Farmington Town Hall.

- Michael Wilson, Reporter

Rock Lake Troopers

The Rock Lake Troopers 4-H club held a meeting on August 4th after being off in July because of the Fair. At the August meeting we welcomed a new member and congratulated Adria Saxby on 14 years of 4-H, she is going to college. On June 21st we had our annual cream puff sale which made over \$400. Also, at the meeting we shared how our fair projects did.

- Charlie T. Johnosn, Reporter

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!

4-H Project Grant Applications Due September 15

The Jefferson County 4-H Leaders Association sponsors the opportunity for youth to apply for grant funding to support their project work for the upcoming 4-H year. Youth may apply for multiple projects but are only eligible to be awarded one project grant annually. Number of project grants awarded depends on available funds. Applications will be reviewed and decided upon by the Grant Award Committee.

Grant Information:

- Grants will be awarded for initiating or improving project program.
- Recipients will be determined by the grants award committee, based on this application information. The Leaders Association will award 10-15 grants.
- All grants are in the form of cash awards (checks) issued to recipients.
- All grants are paid to the recipient with the understanding that the award funds will be used to meet expenses of improving or starting their project.
- All grant monies must be expensed by August 31, 2026.
- It is understood that anyone awarded a Project Grant will complete a Final Report in order to be eligible for any future Project Grants. Final Report will explain how your grant funding was utilized for your project.

Grant Requirements:

- Application MUST be completed in full.
- Current year application must be utilized.
- Applicant must be in 3rd through 12th grade during the 2025-2026 school year.
- Applicant must be a current member of Jefferson County 4-H Program.
- Application must be signed by applicant, parent/guardian and club leader.
- No other materials outside of application may be attached.
- Limit one grant per 4-H'er per 4-H/project year.

Grant Areas:

- Beginner (1-4 years in project)
- Intermediate (5-8 years in project)
- Advanced (9-12 years in project)

Selection Announcement:

- Recipients will be notified by the Extension, Jefferson County Office by email and letter in December.

How to Apply:

- Complete the entire form through Seamless Docs (electronically).
 - Upload one photograph related to your project. The applicant is requested to be in the photo.
- Applications must be turned in by 4 p.m. on September 15, 2025.

[4-H Project Grant Application](#)

4-H Brat Sale Fundraiser

The Jefferson County 4-H is again doing a brat sale to raise funds for the Jefferson County 4-H Leaders Association. The funds raised will help to fulfil our mission of providing essential opportunities and support for positive youth development through quality educational 4-H programs. This comes in many forms including educational events, contests, scholarships, project grants, awards, educational workshops and trip support.

Order Forms: Order forms are available at the County Extension office or can be found online here: https://jefferson.extension.wisc.edu/files/2025/08/3434_001.pdf.

Brats: Brats are made by The Stockyards, a custom meat processor and meat market from Fairchild, WI. Brats will come frozen in a package of 6. There will be a selection of 18 flavors available.

Return of Order Forms and Funds: All order forms must be returned to the County Extension office by 4pm on Friday, September 5th. Orders may also be submitted online here: <https://forms.gle/nMqoqnwixGt9AAWXA> but money still needs to be received by the deadline. All order forms and monies will be double checked by the Leaders Association prior to submitting the product order. No products will be ordered without appropriately submitted funds.

4-H Food Stand at the Fair Park

Our next volunteer opportunities for the 4-H food stand at the Jefferson County Fair Park are listed below. Please consider volunteering and sign up for one of the following dates:

- October 4 & 5 | [Sign Up Here!](#)
- November 29 | [Sign Up Here!](#)
- December 6 & 7 | [Sign Up Here!](#)
- December 13 & 14 | [Sign Up Here!](#)



UW-MADISON EXTENSION

COME EXPLORE 4-H

There will be 4-H info booths, project activity booths, enrollment help and more! Everyone is welcome - new & returning members!

**SEPT
4**

**4:30PM-
7:00PM**

**JEFFERSON CO.
EXTENSION OFFICE
864 COLLINS RD
JEFFERSON, WI**

WHAT IS 4-H?

4-H is a positive youth development organization that reaches youth through a network of clubs and projects for youth ages 5K-13th grade (one year out of high school).

Projects and club experience provide hands-on learning experience in the life skills of: cooperation, leadership, and decision making.

Contact Jefferson County 4-H for more information at 920-674-7295



DIRECTORY

Leader's Association Board

Name	Club	Phone
Cindy Jaquith, President	Stone School	920-723-9517
Rachel Thom, President Elect	Country Roots	920-728-5144
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
Alyssa Jaquith, Director	Stone School	920-723-9039
Lisa Small, Director	Ixonia Victory	920-285-7204
Kimberley Kreger, Director	Ideal Clever Clovers	920-723-1191
Karen Gefvert, Director	Rock River Clovers	608-617-2772

Countywide Project Leaders

Project	Name	Phone
Clothing	Kimberly Kreger	920-723-1191
Dairy	Bill Uecker	920-285-9125
Dogs	Kate Anderson	920-728-3614
Horse & Pony	Jordan Soleska	jchpchair@gmail.com
Junior Leaders	Alyssa Jaquith	920-723-9039
Lego	Charles Johnson	920-342-9783
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	608-673-0680	joshua.kamps@wisc.edu
Julie Hill	Horticulture Outreach Specialist	262-374-4191	julie.hill@wisc.edu