

# The Lafayette Marquee

## 4-H Newsletter

### FEBRUARY 2026

As we step into a new season of learning, leading, and discovering, it's the perfect time to reflect on what truly makes 4-H such a powerful force in the lives of young people. At its core, 4-H is built on four simple but transformative ideals: **Head, Heart, Hands, and Health**. These aren't just words or symbols on a clover—they're a way of living, growing, and giving back.

In 4-H, we challenge youth to **think with their Head**, nurturing curiosity, creativity, and critical thinking. We encourage them to **care with their Heart**, developing empathy, leadership, and the confidence to work with and support others. We inspire them to **serve with their Hands**, learning practical skills and discovering how capable they really are. And we empower them to **live with Health**, making choices that strengthen their well-being and build a foundation for a strong future.

While many people naturally associate 4-H with the excitement of the county fair, the truth is—**4-H is so much more**. Here in Lafayette County, we are proud to be building a 4-H experience that reaches far beyond the "traditional" project or exhibit. We are committed to offering youth opportunities that spark new interests, build lasting connections, and open doorways to pathways they may not have discovered otherwise.

This year, our county is buzzing with **new and impactful programming** designed to meet young people where they are and invite them into meaningful hands-on learning:

- **Monthly SPARK Days** give youth a chance to explore brand-new topics, try fresh skills, and dive into experiences that ignite passions they didn't even know they had.
- **Explore: 4-H Edition**, our growing collaboration with county libraries, brings 4-H learning directly into the community—making it accessible, welcoming, and fun for youth and families.
- **The 4-H Experience Series** connects young people to the vibrant world of local agriculture entrepreneurs and small businesses. Through real-world conversations and on-site experiences, youth not only learn about local ag, business ownership, and innovation—they get to see themselves in those spaces.

These programs, along with the traditions we hold dear, help us build a 4-H community where every young person can find their place, discover their strengths, and grow into who they are meant to be.

As we look ahead, I'm excited for all that is yet to come. Thank you for being part of the 4-H story here in Lafayette County—and for helping show our youth that **4-H truly is so much more**.

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Find Lafayette County UW

Extension on Facebook!

Hailee Kammerud,

4-H Youth Development Educator



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

## Calendar of Events

<b>FEBRUARY 2026</b>	07	State 4-H Dairy Quiz Bowl—UW Green Bay
	08	4-H Archery Clinic—Gratiot 1:00-3:00 PM
	13	4-H Air Rifle Clinic
	20	Explore: 4-H Edition @ Johnson Public Library
	20	4-H Air Rifle Clinic
	22	4-H Archery Clinic—Gratiot 1:00-3:00 PM
	25	Explore: 4-H Edition @ John Turgeson Public Library
	27	Explore: 4-H Edition @ McCoy Public Library
	27-28	4-H Air Rifle Clinics
	28	YQCA @ MPB—8:30 AM
	28	Watercolor - SPARK Day @ MPB - 10:00 AM
	28	4-H Record Book Recognition
<b>MARCH 2026</b>	01	WI State 4-H Scholarships DUE
	01	Young Adult Leader Position - Summer Academy App DUE
	07	WI State 4-H Dog Project Agility Learning Day - Wausau
	08	4-H Archery Clinic—Gratiot 1:00-3:00 PM
	13-15	Art Beat! @ Upham Woods
	20	Explore: 4-H Edition @ McCoy Public Library
	22	4-H Archery Clinic—Gratiot 1:00-3:00 PM
	20	Explore: 4-H Edition @ Johnson Public Library
	21	State 4-H Livestock Skillathon & Quiz Bowl –UW-Madison
	28	Seed Starting - SPARK Day @ MPB - 10:00 AM
<b>APRIL 2026</b>	12	4-H Archery Clinic—Gratiot 1:00-3:00 PM
	17	Explore: 4-H Edition @ McCoy Public Library
	22	Explore: 4-H Edition @ John Turgeson Public Library
	25	State 4-H Dog Quiz Bowl - UW Green Bay
	26	4-H Archery Clinic—Gratiot 1:00-3:00 PM
<b>MAY 2026</b>	2-3	State 4-H Horse Education Days
	08	Explore: 4-H Edition @ JPL
	27	Explore: 4-H Edition @ John Turgeson Public Library

## 4-H Pledge & Creed

**HEAD****HEART****HANDS****HEALTH**

### 4H PLEDGE

I pledge my head to clearer thinking,  
My heart to greater loyalty,  
My hands to larger service,  
And my health to better living,  
For my club, my community, my country, and  
my world.

**I believe in 4-H Club work for the opportunity it will give me to become a useful citizen.**

**I believe in the training of my HEAD for the power it will give me to think, plan and to reason.**

**I believe in the training of my HEART for the nobleness it will give me to be kind, sympathetic and true.**

**I believe in the training of my HANDS for the ability it will give me to be helpful, skillful, and useful.**

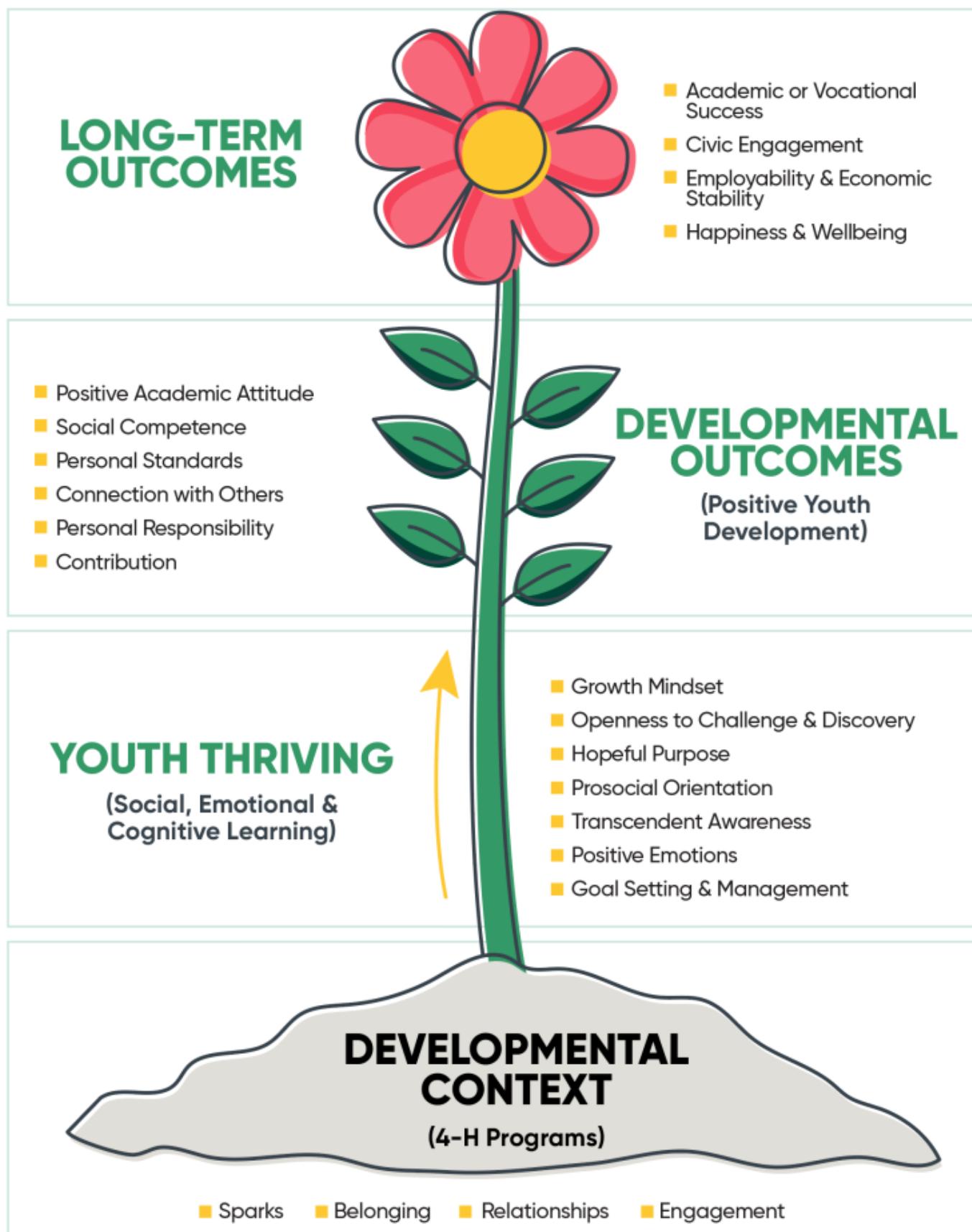
**I believe in the training of my HEALTH for the strength it will give me to enjoy life, to resist disease, and to work efficiently.**

**I believe in my county, my state, and my community and in my responsibility for their development.**

**In all these things I believe, and am willing to dedicate my efforts to their fulfillment.**

What counts?	Participation?	How do they count?
Monthly Club Meetings	County-level	Each meeting = 1 educational experience
Record Book	County-level	Completion = 1 educational experience
County Shooting Sports Clin-	County-level	3 clinics = 1 educational experience
4-H Camp	County-level	Attendance = 2 educational experiences
Day in the Arts	County-level	Participation = 1 educational experience
4-H SPARK Days	County-level	Participation = 1 educational experience/event
4-H SPARK Day Presenter	County-level	Leading the Event = 2 educational experiences
4-H Ambassadors	County-level	Attendance & Participation = 3 educational experiences
Discovery Days (Cloverbud/	County-level	Attendance & Participation = 1 educational experience/event
"Experience Series" Events	County-level	Attendance & Participation = 1 educational experience/event
County 4-H Horse Clinics	County-level	3 clinics = 1 educational experience
County Dog Project Clinics	County-level	3 clinics = 1 educational experience
YQCA	County-level	In-person or Online = 1 educational experience
4-H Camp Counselor	County-level	Participation = 3 educational experiences
Library Collaborations w/4-H	County-level	Attendance & Participation = 1 educational experience
Youth Project Leader	County-level	Participation = 1 educational experience/project area based on
4-H Adopt A Cow	County-level	Participation = 1 educational experience
Area Animal Science Days	County/State level	Attendance & Participation = 1 educational experience
State Shooting Sports Events	State level	Each day = 1 educational experience
WI 4-H Arts Camp	State level	Attendance = 2 educational experiences
Art Beat!	State level	Attendance = 2 educational experiences
State Arts Ambassadors	State level	Participation = 3 educational experiences
State Dog Agility Show	State level	Attendance & Participation = 2 educational experiences
State Dog Obedience &	State level	Attendance & Participation = 2 educational experiences
State Dog Quiz Bowl	State level	Attendance & Participation = 1 educational experiences
State 4-H Gymkhana	State level	Attendance & Participation = 1 educational experiences
State Horse Expo	State level	Attendance & Participation = 1 educational experiences
4-H Hunt & Dressage Show	State level	Attendance & Participation = 2 educational experiences
Fall Forum	State level	Attendance & Participation = 3 educational experiences
Ignite by 4-H	State level	Attendance & Participation = 3 educational experiences
Summer Academy	State level	Participation = 3 educational experiences
National 4-H Congress	State level	Participation = 3 educational experiences
WI 4-H Leadership Council	State level	Attendance & Participation = 3 educational experiences
State 4-H Horse Education	State level	Attendance & Participation = 1 educational experiences/event
American Spirit East	State level	Participation = 3 educational experiences
CWF (Citizenship Washington	State level	Participation = 3 educational experiences
YPCL	State level	Attendance & Participation = 2 educational experiences
Restorative Justice Summit	State level	Attendance & Participation = 1 educational experience
Dairy Quiz Bowl	State level	Attendance & Participation = 1 educational experience
State Dairy Judging Contest	State level	Attendance & Participation = 1 educational experience
State Livestock Judging Con-	State level	Attendance & Participation = 1 educational experience
4-H Meats Judging Conest	State level	Attendance & Participation = 1 educational experience
4-H Livestock Skill-a-thon	State level	Attendance & Participation = 1 educational experience
4-H Livestock Quiz Bowl	State level	Attendance & Participation = 1 educational experience
Space Camp	State level	Attendance & Participation = 3 educational experiences
Advanced Space Camp	State level	Attendance & Participation = 3 educational experiences

## 4-H Thriving Model



## WI 4-H Opportunities

# SAVE THE DATES

## STATE 4-H LIVESTOCK EVENTS

**4-H MEATS JUDGING CONTEST**  
**JANUARY 31, 2026**

**SKILLATHON AND QUIZ BOWL**  
**MARCH 21, 2026**

**BOTH EVENTS HELD AT THE**  
**UW MADISON CAMPUS**



Extension  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



# SAVE THE DATE

**STATE 4-H DAIRY QUIZ BOWL**

**FEBRUARY 7, 2026**

**UW GREEN BAY  
STEM INNOVATION BUILDING**



Extension  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



# Explore 4-H Edition



UW-MADISON EXTENSION

## FEATHERED FRIENDS

**EXPLORE MORE.  
DISCOVER 4-H.**

National Bird Day

Create Bird Feeders using recycled  
materials

Bird Trivia Challenge

Bird Bingo



**Johnson Public Library**

131 E Catherine St Darlington

**Friday, February 20, 2:00 p.m.**



**John Turgeson Public Library**

220 S Mound Ave Belmont WI

**Wednesday, February 25 3:45 p.m.**



**McCoy Public Library**

190 Judgement St Shullsburg

**Friday, February 27, 1:30 p.m.**



YQCA

# YQCA Instructor Led Training

**Saturday, February 28 at 8:30am**  
**Please arrive by 8:200am**

**Lafayette County Multipurpose Bldg,  
11974 Ames Rd., Darlington**

You must register online, pay the \$3 fee, and complete the pre-test.  
Any questions please contact Jackie McCarville at 608-576-0147



The University of Wisconsin–Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming in compliance with state and federal law.

If you need an accommodation to attend this event, please contact Jackie McCarville by 10 business days before the event.

Register at: <https://yqcaprogram.org>

## SPARK DAY—FEBRUARY 2026



# Spark Days! WATER colors

IGNITING IMAGINATION.  
ONE SPARK AT A TIME.



Multi-Purpose Building  
11974 Ames Rd, Darlington, WI



FEBRUARY 28, 10 A.M.

Registration  
Required



[https://forms.gle/  
FyzTbU9LiTcvV  
8PbA](https://forms.gle/FyzTbU9LiTcvV8PbA)

## EXPLORE: 4-H Edition—MARCH 2026

# Explore 4-H Edition



UW-MADISON EXTENSION

EXPLORE MORE.  
DISCOVER 4-H.

## Explore POLLINATORS

**McCoy Public Library**

190 Judgement St Shullsburg

**Friday, March 20, 1:30 p.m.****Johnson Public Library**

131 E Catherine St Darlington

**Friday, March 20, 2:00 p.m.****John Turgeson Public Library**

220 S Mound Ave Belmont WI

**Wednesday, March 25 3:45 p.m.**

## SPARK DAY—MARCH 2026



**Spark Days!**  
**SEED**  
**STARTING**

IGNITING IMAGINATION.  
ONE SPARK AT A TIME.

**MARCH 28  
10:00 AM**

Multi-Purpose Building  
11974 Ames Rd, Darlington, WI

Registration Required

<https://forms.gle/zPedvdUNDa2JUJng7>

AN EEO/AA EMPLOYER, UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON DIVISION OF EXTENSION PROVIDES EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IN EMPLOYMENT & PROGRAMMING, INCLUDING TITLE VI, TITLE IX, THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) & SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT REQUIREMENTS.

UW-MADISON EXTENSION

## WI 4-H Opportunities



**ART BEAT**  
**REGISTRATION CLOSING SOON!**

**WHO** 4-H Members in Grades 3-5

**WHEN** March 13-15, 2026

**WHERE** Upham Woods Outdoor Learning Center

**COST** \$150 for Youth Members, \$75 for Adult Volunteers

Positive Youth Development Institute  
DIVISION OF EXTENSION  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

REGISTER BY FEB 8TH!



## 4-H Scholarships



## APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

### Eligibility:

- Must have been a Wisconsin 4-H member for at least 3 years
- GPA of 2.5/4.0
- Enrolled or planning to enroll in a university, college, or technical school during the following academic year

Applicants will submit an online application form with their cover letter and résumé

Learn more!



## WI 4-H Opportunities



# YOUNG ADULT LEADER POSITION

For Summer Academy 2026

### Applicants Must be:

- Between the ages of 19 and 25
- Able to work cooperatively with others
- A role model and support system for youth attendees

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: MAR. 1ST**

Young Adult Leaders also must be able to attend trainings and an on-site orientation



# WI STATE 4-H DOG PROJECT AGILITY LEARNING DAY

**SPONSORED BY THE WI STATE DOG ASSOCIATION**

**PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED TO ATTEND**

**SAT., MARCH 7TH**

**9AM – 2PM**

**WAUSAU, WI**



**SEE POST FOR MORE DETAILS**



**Extension**  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

## WI 4-H Opportunities

# SAVE THE DATES

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## STATE 4-H DOG EVENTS

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### DOG 4-H QUIZ BOWL

APRIL 25, 2026

STEM INNOVATION BUILDING, UW - GREEN BAY

STATE 4-H DOG OBEDIENCE,  
SHOWMANSHIP, AND RALLY;  
SPEAKING, PHOTO, AND POSTER CONTESTS

SEPTEMBER 26 & 27, 2026

LANGLADE CO. FAIRGROUNDS, ANTIGO

### STATE 4-H DOG AGILITY SHOW

OCTOBER 10, 2026

OVERDALE CANINE SPORTS, SPRING VALLEY



WI 4-H Opportunities

# SAVE THE DATES

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## STATE 4-H HORSE EVENTS

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HORSE EDUCATION DAYS  
**MAY 2 & 3, 2026**

STATE HUNT AND DRESSAGE SHOW  
**JUNE 26, 27, & 28, 2026**

STATE GYMKHANA SHOW  
**SEPTEMBER 12, 2026**

STATE HORSE EXPO SHOW  
**SEPTEMBER 18, 19, & 20, 2026**

## WHY 4-H?

#wi4hmovement



# The Wisconsin 4-H MOVEMENT

I pledge my head to clearer thinking, my heart to greater loyalty, my hands to larger service, and my health to better living, for my club, my community, my country and my world.

## In Wisconsin 4-H we value:

Being Yourself



Find and share your authentic sparks and interests;

Belonging Together



Recognize, understand, respect, and appreciate each other;

Building Connections



Grow positive relationships with peers and adults;

Discovering Skills



Develop skills through hands-on learning to help you succeed and thrive;

Exploring New Opportunities



Open the door to new experiences, projects and places;

Giving Back to Your Community



Make meaningful contributions through community service and leadership.

BELONGING

MASTERY

INDEPENDENCE

GENEROSITY

To Make The  
Best Better.



UW-MADISON EXTENSION

## WI State 4-H

### What ELSE does 4-H have to offer?

#### **WI 4-H Arts Ambassadors:**

##### **Dairy & Animal Science Program:**

- \* [Area Animal Science Days](#)
- \* [Dairy Quiz Bowl](#)
- \* [State Dairy Judging Contest](#)
- \* [James W. Crowley Dairy Leadership Award](#)

##### **Global Citizenship:**

- \* [International Exchange](#)
- \* [Summer Outbound Travel Program](#)
- \* [Summer Inbound Hosting Program](#)

##### **Dog Program:**

- \* [State Dog Agility Show](#)
- \* [State Dog Obedience & Showmanship Show](#)
- \* [State Dog Quiz Bowl](#)

##### **Shooting Sports:**

- \* [Competitive Shoots](#)

##### **Horse Program:**

- \* [State 4-H Gymkhana](#) -
- \* [State 4-H Horse Education Days, Horse Bowl, & Hippology Contest](#)
- \* [State Horse Expo](#)
- \* [State 4-H Horse Leader's Conference](#)
- \* [4-H Hunt & Dressage Show](#)
- \* [Midwest Horse Fair Tack Sale](#)

##### **Leadership:**

- \* [WI 4-H Leadership Council](#)
- \* [Youth as Partners in Civic Leadership](#)
- \* [Restorative Justice Summit](#)
- \* [Fall Forum](#)
- \* [Summer Academy](#)

##### **Travel Experiences:**

- \* [American Spirit East](#)
- \* [Citizenship Washington Focus](#)
- \* [Space Camp](#)
- \* [National 4-H Conference](#)
- \* [National 4-H Congress](#)

##### **Livestock Program:**

- \* [Area Animal Science Days](#)
- \* [State Livestock Judging Contest](#)
- \* [Meats Judging Contest](#)
- \* [Livestock Quiz Bowl & Skill-a-Thon Contest](#)

##### **Awards & Scholarships:**

- \* [Key Awards](#)
- \* [Crowley Dairy Leadership Award](#)
- \* [WI 4-H Foundation Scholarship](#)



**Lafayette County Agriculture & Extension Education Committee:**

Lee Gill  
Rita Buchholz  
Mark Pinch  
Donna Flannery  
Joe Schutte

## ***4H PLEDGE***

I pledge my head to clearer thinking,  
My heart to greater loyalty,  
My hands to larger service,  
And my health to better living,  
For my club, my community, my country, and my world.

## **THE LAFAYETTE MARQUEE—4-H NEWSLETTER**

**UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN EXTENSION**

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