

# The Lafayette Marquee

## 4-H Newsletter

**JUNE 2026**

### Growing Youth Leadership in 4-H

In 4-H, we often talk about being a youth-led organization — and that’s more than a slogan. It’s a commitment to creating spaces where young people can practice leadership, make decisions, try new things, and learn from the process. Youth leadership doesn’t happen all at once, and it certainly doesn’t happen perfectly. But it does grow with consistency, encouragement, and a willingness to let young people take the lead.

Adults play a critical role in this journey. Strong youth–adult partnerships are built when adults step into the role of supporters, coaches, and guides rather than directors. That means meeting youth where they are, offering structure without taking over, and asking for help when we need it. Supporting youth leadership is a shared effort, and none of us are expected to do it alone.

One of the most important things to remember is that youth are often far more capable than they are given credit for. When we give them room to lead — even when it feels a little messy — they rise to the challenge. 4-H is designed to be a safe place to learn, and that includes learning through mistakes. Some of the biggest lessons, and the most meaningful growth, come from attempts that don’t go as planned.

As we move into the busy months ahead, I encourage all of us to keep leaning into a growth mindset. Celebrate the small steps. Support the big ideas. And remember that leadership is a skill built over time — one meeting, one project, one opportunity at a time.

Together, we can continue building a 4-H program where youth feel trusted, supported and ready to lead.

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Extension  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

## Calendar of Events

### JUNE 2026

- 19 Area Animal Science Day—Grant County
- 20 SPARK DAY: Knitting w/HCE @ MPB
- 26-28 State 4-H Horse Hunt & Dressage Show
- 27 SPARK DAY: Knitting w/HCE @ MPB

### JULY 2026



- 04 Independence Day—Office Closed**
- 8-12 Lafayette County Fair
- 9-12 Badger Dairy Camp @ UW-Madison
- 17 4-H Discovery Day @ MPB
- 18 SPARK DAY: Crocheting w/HCE @ MPB
- 25 SPARK DAY: Crocheting w/HCE @ MPB



### AUGUST 2026

- 5-8 4-H Base & Adventure Camp @ Upham Woods
- 6-16 WI State Fair ~ West Allis, WI
- 15 SPARK DAY: Jelly-palooza w/HCE @ WSB

### SEPTEMBER 2026

- 01 2026-2027 4-H Re-enrollment Opens
- 7 Labor Day—Office Closed**
- 12 State 4-H Gymkhana ~ State Fair Park, West Allis, WI
- 18-20 State Horse Expo Show
- 19 SPARK DAY: String Art w/HCE @ MPB
- 26-27 State 4-H Dog Obedience, Showmanship, and Rally

### OCTOBER 2026

- 10 State 4-H Dog Agility Show
- 24 WI State 4-H Dog Project Obedience & Rally Learning Day

### NOVEMBER 2026

- 01 4-H Re-enrollment Deadline

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## 4-H Pledge & Creed

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**HEAD**



**HEART**



**HANDS**



**HEALTH**

### *4-H 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.

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## 4-H Creed

**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.**

Summer AmeriCorps Member

# IT'S TIME TO MEET

## KAITLYN RICHARDSON



### AMERICORPS MEMBER SERVING IN LAFAYETTE COUNTY

### ABOUT ME

This is my second year serving as an AmeriCorps member in Lafayette County. I'm also a long-time 4-H member – currently in my ninth and final year. I look forward to working with everyone this summer.

### BACKGROUND

I recently completed my freshman year at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, where I'm majoring in elementary education. I hope to teach grades 1-4 in the future.



4-H Discovery Day



# Cloverbud Discovery Day



Join us for a fun-filled morning of hands-on activities, games, crafts, and learning at Cloverbud Discover Day. Come explore, create, and make new friends while discovering all the fun 4-H has to offer!  
More information to come.

**Where: Multi-Purpose Building  
(11974 Ames Rd, Darlington, WI 53530)**

**When: July 17, 2026**

**Time: 9:00 am – 11:30 am**

**Who: grades k-3**

An AA/EEO employer, University of Wisconsin-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX and ADA requirements



**Extension**  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



**AmeriCorps**

SPARK DAYS! — June 2026



UW-MADISON EXTENSION

*Spark Days!*

# Knitting WORKSHOPS WITH HCE



IGNITING IMAGINATION.  
ONE SPARK AT A TIME.

REGISTRATION  
REQUIRED



[HTTPS://FORMS.GLE/P  
W2YNYOJ6TLVB9RK6](https://forms.gle/PW2YNYOJ6TLVB9RK6)

“KNIT YOUR WAY TO  
SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL”

**JUNE 20 & 27**  
AT 10:00 AM

**MULTIPURPOSE BUILDING**  
11974 AMES RD, DARLINGTON, WI

SPARK DAYS! — July 2026



# Spark Days!

## Crochet Workshops

with HCE

IGNITING IMAGINATION.  
ONE SPARK AT A TIME.

Come join us for a fun, hands-on workshop where you'll learn to craft something unique and totally handmade by YOU!



# July 18 & 25

REGISTRATION  
REQUIRED



[HTTPS://FORMS.GLE/Z  
AHJJXRd5KLU2MA8](https://forms.gle/zAHJJXRd5KLU2MA8)

at 10:00 AM

Multipurpose Building

11974 Ames Rd, Darlington, WI

Please bring your size G crochet hook.

SPARK DAYS! — August 2026



UW-MADISON EXTENSION

Spark Days!



# JELLY-PALOOZA



**HANDS-ON WORKSHOP WHERE YOU'LL LEARN HOW TO MAKE DELICIOUS HOMEMADE JELLY AND SAFELY PRESERVE IT SO IT'S SHELF STABLE. PARTICIPANTS WILL BE GUIDED THROUGH THE JELLY-MAKING PROCESS, INCLUDING PREPARING FRUIT, COOKING, AND PROPER CANNING TECHNIQUES USING A WATER BATH METHOD.**

**THIS WORKSHOP WILL COVER SAFE FOOD PRESERVATION PRACTICES TO ENSURE YOUR JELLY CAN BE STORED AND ENJOYED LATER. PERFECT FOR BEGINNERS OR ANYONE INTERESTED IN LEARNING A USEFUL, HOMEMADE SKILL!**

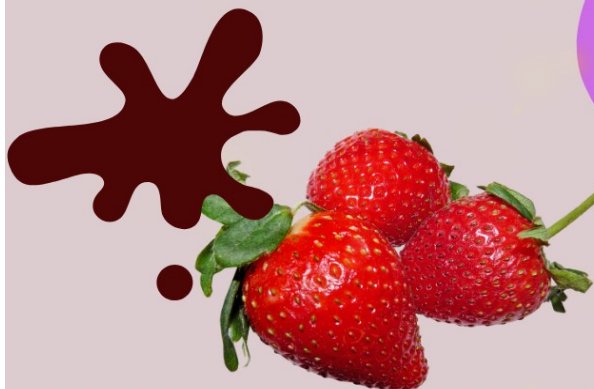
**REGISTRATION  
REQUIRED**



**[HTTPS://FORMS.GLE/Z6HWAAMJWA0USD4W6](https://forms.gle/Z6HWAAMJWA0USD4W6)**

**AUGUST 15  
10:00 AM**

**WOODFORD STATE BANK  
- DARLINGTON  
15815 WI-81, DARLINGTON WI**

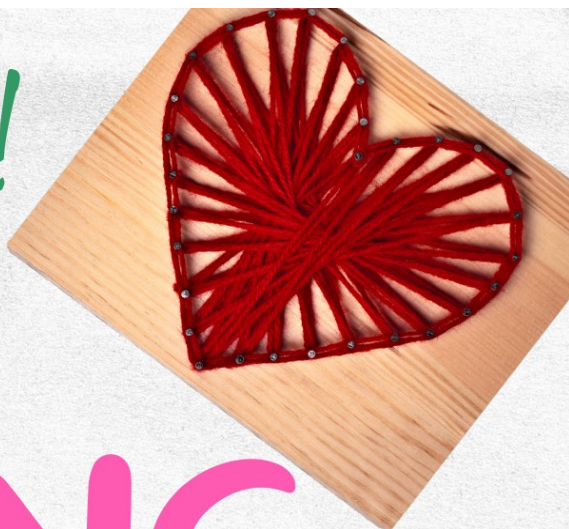


**SPARK DAYS! w/Hands of Experience, Hands of the Future — September 2026**



UW-MADISON EXTENSION

Spark Days!



# STRING ART with HCE

**IGNITING IMAGINATION.  
ONE SPARK AT A TIME.**  
A hands-on workshop where participants create designs using string and nails on a wooden board. Learn basic techniques while making a fun, decorative piece to take home —no experience needed!

**SEPT 19TH**

**10:00 am**

**Multipurpose Building**

11974 Ames Rd, Darlington, WI

Registration Required



<https://forms.gle/jg2ANakddypAAHp46>



## 4-H Base & Adventure Camp 2026

# 2026 Green County 4-H Camps

Upham Woods, Wis. Dells

Wed., Aug. 5—Sat., Aug. 8



UW-MADISON EXTENSION

### 4-H Base Camp

For Campers in **3rd-6th grades** as of the 2025-2026 school year.

Youth will enjoy a variety of outdoor and camp experiences away from cell phones and screens.

Favorite base camp activities often include:

Archery	Time with Youth Counselors
Campfires	Large Group Games
Arts & Craft	Swimming

Youth will sleep in rustic cabins, assigned by sex and age. Each cabin has bunk beds for 12-14 campers, three or four high school age youth staff, and two enrolled 4-H adult volunteer chaperones. Campers will help clean their cabin and bunk.

Youth will be served wholesome, family style meals in the large dining hall with a modern kitchen at the center of the camp. We also offer afternoon and evening snacks. Campers help set and clean tables. Youth will experience full and active days, waking up by 7:00am and lights out at 10:00pm each day.

### 4-H Adventure Camp

For Campers in **7th-8th grades** as of the 2025-2026 school year. Minimum of 8 campers required.

Youth will experience the adventures of Upham Woods in new and deeper ways than ever before, while still enjoying a few favorites of base camp traditions.

Adventure campers will sleep in tents behind the nature center, with access to bathrooms and showers.

Youth will eat breakfasts in the dining hall, but other meals they will work as a team to prepare picnic lunches and cook dinner over a campfire.

Plans are being made to explore by water and land some of the lesser known parts of camp and to picnic along the river.

In this small group camp environment, youth will focus on building their teamwork, communication and leadership skills, while enjoying the outdoors and exploring the natural environment in new ways.

### Camp Fee

→\$250.00, but with scholarships & subsidized funds will be reduced to \$150.00

Registration Deadline is **June 23, 2026.**

Camp fees contribute towards bussing, lodging, meals, snacks, camp t-shirt, insurance, transportation, staffing, and other activity costs.

**Refund Policy:** A complete refund will be made to you if you cancel before the registration deadline. No refund is given after this time, except for prorated refunds in case of major illness, accident, or death in the family.

**Bus Transportation:** Bus will leave from Monroe on Wednesday, August 5th at 8:00am, and return about Noon on Saturday, August 8th. More information is mailed prior to camp.

## Camp cont'd

**Registration**— Online at: <https://wi.4honline.com>

**STEP 1—FIND THE EVENT ON 4HONLINE:** Log into your 4HOnline family account. Scroll to the bottom of your member list and find the section titled “Register A Member In An Event”. Select “Green County 4-H Base Camp (Gr.3-6) & Adventure Camp (Gr.7-8) - 2026” Click on the “Register” button at the bottom of the screen.

**STEP 2—REGISTER FOR THE EVENT:** On the next screen you will be asked for specific information related to the event (i.e. t-shirt size and cabin mate preference) Verify your choices and click on the “Check Out ” button.

**STEP 3—PAYMENT:** Please contact the Hailee at the Lafayette County Extension off regarding payment.

**STEP 4—COMPLETE PAPER HEALTH FORM:** Once you have successfully registered in 4HOnline, you will be sent a paper Youth Health Form that needs to be filled out and returned within 2 weeks.

Questions? Contact Ellen Andrews, 4-H Youth Development Educator, at 608-328-9440 or [ellen.andrews@wisc.edu](mailto:ellen.andrews@wisc.edu).

### 4-H Camp Activities

**Recreation:** Have fun getting active with other campers in large group games and sports, which may include running and personal contact with other participants.

**Waterfront:** Refresh yourself by swimming and canoeing in the lovely Wisconsin River. A certified lifeguard is present during all waterfront activities and all participants must wear a PFD while in any watercraft.

**Nature:** Explore the many natural wonders in and around camp such as the nature trails, streams, animal tracks, birds, and trees. Nature may include hiking on uneven terrain or opportunities to go on a night hike with adult supervision.

Camp will offer a variety of other activities including scavenger hunts, eco-exploring, and possibly archery. In some group activities, it may be necessary for a volunteer to have physical contact with a youth (i.e. to properly secure a PFD, but only with child’s permission).



### Upham Woods & Camp Staff

Camp Upham Woods ([fyi.extension.wisc.edu/uphamwoods/](http://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/uphamwoods/)) is a recreational and natural resource complex. It is part of the University of Wisconsin—Madison’s Division of Extension. Located on the Wisconsin River just north of Wisconsin Dells, Upham Woods consists of 318 acres of woodlands. The facility is made up of thirteen buildings that supply lodging, meals and activity resources. The cabins are located at the top of a steep hill, along with a bath house, with individual showers and bathroom facilities.

A health coordinator who is trained in first aid and CPR is on duty at all times to handle minor health and safety needs. The coordinator can only administer medications sent with the camper and as directed on the Youth Event Health form. The Dells Delton EMS is ready to handle any emergencies. Campers are covered by accident insurance.

The camp staff consists of paid Upham Woods staff, plus adult volunteers who serve as chaperones, role models, and activity directors. All of the adult volunteers are enrolled 4-H volunteers and have completed youth protection training and background checks. We have a maximum ratio of one adult to every ten youth.

Base Camp campers will be spending the majority of their time under the direct supervision of youth volunteer staff (counselors and assistant program leaders). All youth staff, ranging from age 14-19, have participated in a minimum of six hours of training. Our ratio of campers to youth staff is approximately five to one.

WI 4-H Opportunities

# SAVE THE DATES

## STATE 4-H DOG EVENTS

**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**

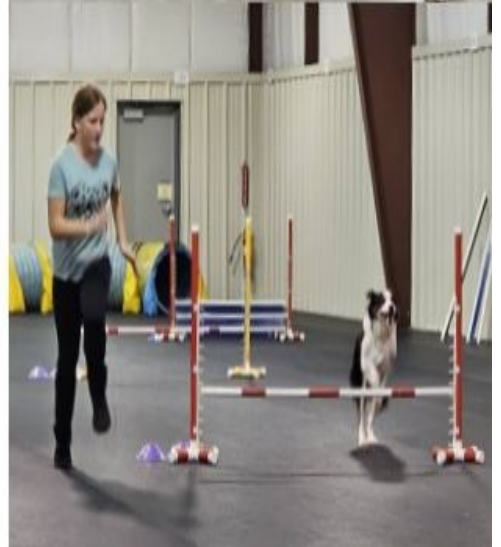
**SEPTEMBER 26 & 27, 2026**

**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

## STATE 4-H HORSE EVENTS

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







Extension  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

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:

<p><b>Being Yourself</b> </p> <p>Find and share your authentic sparks and interests;</p>	<p><b>Belonging Together</b> </p> <p>Recognize, understand, respect, and appreciate each other;</p>
<p><b>Building Connections</b> </p> <p>Grow positive relationships with peers and adults;</p>	<p><b>Discovering Skills</b> </p> <p>Develop skills through hands-on learning to help you succeed and thrive;</p>
<p><b>Exploring New Opportunities</b> </p> <p>Open the door to new experiences, projects and places;</p>	<p><b>Giving Back to Your Community</b> </p> <p>Make meaningful contributions through community service and leadership.</p>

BELONGING	MASTERY	INDEPENDENCE	GENEROSITY
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To Make The Best Better.



**WI State 4-H****What ELSE does 4-H have to offer?****State Arts Ambassadors****Dairy & Animal Science Program:**

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

**Dog Program:**

- \* [State Dog Agility Show](#)
- \* [State Dog Obedience & Showmanship Show](#)
- \* [State Dog Quiz Bowl](#)
- \* [Dog Learning Days: March & October](#)

**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](#)
- \* [Ignite by 4-H](#)

**Livestock Program:**

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

**Shooting Sports:**

- \* [Competitive Shoots](#)

**College & Career Readiness:**

- \* [Summer Academy](#)
- \* [Winter Academy](#)

**Travel Experiences:**

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

**Awards & Scholarships:**

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



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

**Mark Pinch  
Lee Gill  
Bob Boyle  
Larry Ludlum  
David Halloran**

***4-H 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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