

The Lafayette Marquee

4-H Newsletter

AUGUST 2026

As August arrives, it also marks the ending of the **2025-2026 4-H year**. Before we jump into a new year filled with opportunities, it's a perfect time to pause and reflect on the many experiences, accomplishments, and **SPARKS** that made this year memorable.

Think back on your 4-H journey over the past year. What was great? What accomplishments are you most proud of? What challenged you? What could have gone better? Most importantly, what do you want to try next? Reflection helps us celebrate our successes while recognizing new opportunities for growth.

One of the greatest things about 4-H is that it helps young people discover their **SPARKS**. A spark is something that excites you, inspires you, and motivates you to learn more. For some members, that spark may be found through animal science, photography, robotics, leadership, community service, art, foods, or public speaking. For others, a spark may emerge from trying something completely unexpected.

Remember, **4-H is open to everyone, and it is not a one-size-fits-all experience**. If you participated in a project, activity, or event this year that you didn't love, that's okay! Trying something new and finding out it isn't your passion is just as valuable as discovering something you can't wait to do again. 4-H gives you the freedom to explore, learn, and grow as your interests change.

As you begin thinking about the upcoming 4-H year, keep your interests open and your curiosity alive. Consider stepping outside your comfort zone and trying a project you've never explored before. Attend a workshop, participate in a contest, join a new club activity, or take on a leadership role. You never know when a new SPARK may ignite and lead you toward a passion, skill, or opportunity you never expected.

The beauty of 4-H is that there is something for everyone. Every experience helps you learn more about yourself and the unique talents you bring to your club, community, and world.

As we close out the 2025-2026 4-H year, celebrate how far you've come and look ahead with excitement. Keep exploring, keep growing, and keep discovering the many SPARKS that make your 4-H journey uniquely yours. We can't wait to see what passions ignite in the year ahead!

Inside this issue:

Calendar	2
4-H Pledge & Creed	3
SPARK DAYS!	4
WI 4-H Arts Camp Reg.	5
Ignite 2027	6
Fall Forum Reg.	7
Wanted: 4-H Horse Leader	8
WI 4-H Opportunities	9-10
WI 4-H Movement	11
WI State 4-H	12
Contacts/Office Hours	13

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Find Lafayette County UW

Extension on Facebook!

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Calendar of Events

AUGUST 2026	01	Citizenship Washington Focus @ Ignite Registration OPENS
	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
	15	4-H ARTS Camp Registration CLOSES
	27	Citizenship Washington Focus @ Ignite Registration CLOSES
SEPTEMBER 2026	01	Fall Forum Registration OPENS
	04	2026-2027 4-H Re-enrollment Opens
	07	Office CLOSED—Labor Day
	12	State 4-H Gymkhana ~ State Fair Park, West Allis, WI
	15	Fall Forum Registration CLOSES
	18-20	State Horse Expo Show
	26-27	State 4-H Dog Obedience, Showmanship, and Rally
OCTOBER 2026	3-4	4-H ARTS Camp @ Upham Woods (Grades 6-8)
	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 for current members
	6-8	“Quest for Success” Fall Forum ~ Stevens Point, WI (Grades 7-13)
	26	Office CLOSED—Thanksgiving
DECEMBER 2026	24-25	Office CLOSED—Christmas Eve, Christmas Day
	31	Office CLOSED—New Year’s Eve
JANUARY 2027	01	Office CLOSED—New Year’s Day
	18	Office CLOSED—Martin Luther King Jr. Day
FEBRUARY 2027	02	New Member Enrollment Deadline
MARCH 2027	15-21	Community Accelerators Track @ Ignite ~ Washington D.C.

4-H Pledge & Creed



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.

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.

SPARK DAYS! — August 2026



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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!

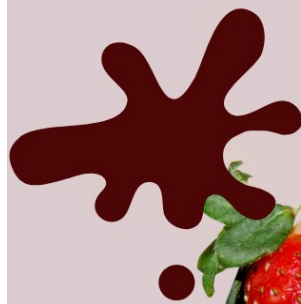
**REGISTRATION
REQUIRED**



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**AUGUST 15
10:00 AM**

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



"THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON DIVISION OF EXTENSION PROVIDES EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IN EMPLOYMENT AND PROGRAMMING IN COMPLIANCE WITH STATE AND FEDERAL LAW."

4-H ARTS Camp ~ 2026

Join us at Upham Woods in Wisconsin Dells on
October 3-4 to grow creative skills, connect with
new friends and explore sparks!

You have until August 15 to register!

Learn more: <http://4h.extension.wisc.edu/.../statewide.../arts-camp>

4-H Arts Camp



Upham Woods,
Wisconsin Dells



Oct. 3-4



Register by Aug.
15!



Grades:
6-8



**WISCONSIN
4H ARTS**



Ignite 2027

Ignite 2027

March 15-21, 2027 • Washington, D.C.



Community Accelerator



Animal Science



STEM



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Registration open
until August 27, 2026



Fall Forum ~ 2026

SAVE THE DATE!



FALL FORUM 2026

NOVEMBER 6-8, 2026

Holiday Inn Convention Center, Stevens Point, WI

**Registration information will be
available soon!**

Visit for more information



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<https://go.wisc.edu/002a8t>

SAVE THE DATE!!

Registration Opens September 1st thru September 15th in 4HOnline!

Open to youth in grades 7-13.

“Quest for Success”

More information on Fall Forum is available on the website: <https://go.wisc.edu/4hfallforum>

NEEDED — Lafayette County 4-H Horse Project Leader

Wanted:
Lafayette County
4-H Horse Project Leader



Contact Katrina Gleason

Phone: (608) 482- 3291

Email: ck_gleason@hotmail.com

For questions, interest, or more information



UW-MADISON EXTENSION



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

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



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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

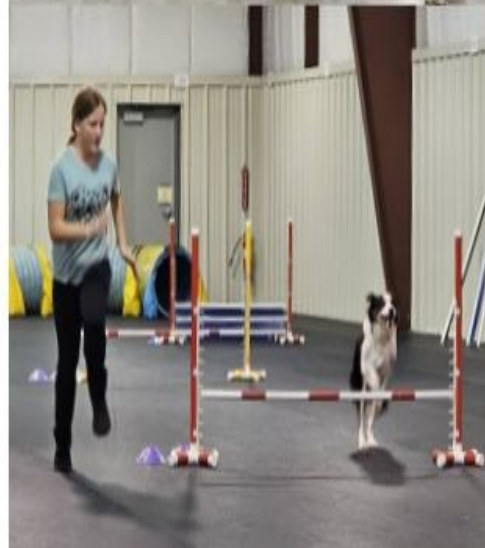
STATE 4-H DOG AGILITY SHOW

OCTOBER 10, 2026

OVERDALE CANINE SPORTS, SPRING VALLEY



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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.



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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

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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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Thank You!

