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.

**February 2019**

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**4-H and the Essential Elements**

Did you know that the full name of 4-H is 4-H Youth Development? Because we are all about youth development, we have core tenets that the program is built around. Iowa State University uses the Circle of Courage, based on a Native American model for youth development. The circle symbolizes a medicine wheel in many Native American cultures, and it does a great job representing how we are all connected and dependent on each other.

Often in 4-H, the elements of the Circle of Courage are known as the “Essential Elements”. If someone has all four essential elements, that person has what they need to flourish in their environment. The four elements are Belonging, Mastery, Independence, and Generosity. Each tenet builds upon the previous.

Each person should have a sense of belonging. If they do not, why would they want to keep coming back to club meetings and events? If that person feels comfortable, they will participate and learn to master new skills. Using those new skills creates a sense of independence. Independently using your skills for the benefit of one’s community showcases generosity.

Everything we do in 4-H should embody the Essential Elements and the Circle of Courage. It is a tried and true way to help people grow to make a difference in the world we live.
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Youth Pig Project Scholarship Deadline</td>
<td>Wisconsin Pork Association</td>
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<tr>
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**Other Dates to Remember**

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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Youth Pig Project Scholarship Deadline</td>
<td>Wisconsin Pork Association</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Annual Leader Training (Rescheduled) Open to all 4-H Families 5:30pm-7pm</td>
<td>Crivitz Village Hall Crivitz, WI</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>4-H Leaders’ Association Meeting Open to all 4-H families 3pm</td>
<td>St Clare Hospital Oconto Falls, WI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Beef Weigh-in, 5:30pm-7:30pm</td>
<td>Oconto County Fairgrounds</td>
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<tr>
<td>14-16</td>
<td>Microsoft Digital Ambassador Regional Training Attended by 2 adults and 2 youth from county</td>
<td>Chicago, IL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Spring Fling Registration Opens</td>
<td>Extension Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Wisconsin 4-H Scholarship Deadline</td>
<td>Wisconsin 4-H Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Oconto County 4-H Ice Skating - Hosted by Pasture Pirates Open to all Oconto County 4-H Families 4pm-5:30pm</td>
<td>“New” Community Rec Center 2502 Pierce Ave Marinette, WI</td>
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<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Camp Counselor Training 2pm-4pm</td>
<td>Pound Town Hall</td>
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<tr>
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**Brief Updates!**

**4-H License Plates** are now available! If it’s about time to re-register your vehicle with the DMV, now is the perfect time to rock the clover on your automobile and support 4-H at the state and county levels! More information can be found on the Wisconsin DMV website or your local DMV office.

Both January **Annual Leader Training** sessions were rescheduled due to inclement weather. Please see the calendar for their rescheduled dates and times. All 4-H clubs are required an adult volunteer attend an Annual Leader Training to represent their club. This is a mandated portion of the charter process. All 4-H members and parents are invited to attend. Ideally, 2-4 youth and adults will attend from each club.

---

**January Thaw & Spring Fling**

Thanks to all who turned out to participate (and volunteer) at this year’s January Thaw Project Day. Participants worked together to make treats for the Oconto County Humane Society, and then jumped straight into projects ranging from archery to baking to poultry!

The next project day will take place on April 6th at Washington Elementary in Oconto Falls. If you are interested in teaching a session, please reach out to the Extension office, and they will get you in touch with the Project Development Committee.

---

**Oconto County 4-H Ice Skating**

Pasture Pirates 4-H is hosting free ice skating at the new Community Recreation Center in Marinette!

Who can attend: All Oconto County 4-H clubs and families  
Date: March 16th  
Time: 4-5:30pm  
Place: “New” Community Recreation Center  
Address: 2502 Pierce Ave., Marinette, WI 54143  
(Near the Marinette High School)  
Free: Admission, skate rental, snacks, and drinks.

Not planning to skate? In the new facilities there is a glass heated room, where parents can enjoy the warmth and watch their children skate.

Please RSVP by March 15th  
Text or call 920-373-8234  
Email: heatherjoyrennie@gmail.com
Microsoft Partners with Oconto County 4-H
Oconto County 4-H is looking for 4 youth (grades 7-11) and 2 adult volunteers to create learning opportunities for Oconto County community members. Microsoft has partnered with the National 4-H Council to help teach communities about broadband internet and increase digital literacy in areas with limited internet access.

This program will last approximately 18 months from February 2019 until July 2020. Participants will lead learning sessions using nationally developed curriculum to help increase adult understanding with computers and the internet. 2 youth and 2 adults from Oconto County will travel to Chicago March 15-16 to participate in training. The State 4-H office will reimburse for travel costs and is currently looking to secure bussing to and from the event.

2 youth have already expressed interest in participating. Please email or call Ben if you are interested or would like more information. Ben will be out of the office for national Digital Ambassador Training from January 14-16.

Pasture Pirates Plays Bingo!
By Jacob Gander, Club Reporter

In December, Pasture Pirates played bingo with residents at Atrium Post Care in Oconto Falls.

Northern Riders Holiday Party
By Harlee Wolf, Club Reporter
Apply for a Scholarship!

The Wisconsin 4-H Foundation is awarding scholarships to Wisconsin students pursuing higher education in 2019. To be considered for financial support, applications must be received by the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation via email by Friday, March 15 at 5pm. More information on qualifications and how to apply on their website: http://wis4hfoundation.org/scholarships/

Additional questions about the scholarships by contacting the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation office at 608.262.1597 or info@Wis4HFoundation.org

Mutual of Wausau is offering grants to 4-H clubs in each county where it has an office. Oconto County 4-H clubs are eligible for these grants in the amount of $400 per club! If your club has a project you’re working on, the club should fill out the attached application (pg 11) at your next meeting. Applications are due by April 1st.

Youth for the Quality Care of Animals Training

All Oconto County fair exhibitors who wish to be eligible to sell in the Oconto County Youth Fair Sale of Champions must participate in the YQCA national program. Instructor-led training is available for youth, ages 8-11. Online training is available to all age levels as is the opportunity to test out of an age group online (ages 12, 15, and 19 only).

In-person Training (ages 8-11 only)
Thursday, April 11—Pound Town Hall, Coleman 6:00 - 7:30 pm
Saturday, May 4—Gillett Community Center, 204 E Main Street, Gillett 10:30 am - Noon

For further information, please see the attached letter (pg 12-13) from the Extension Agriculture Agent, Sarah Mills-Lloyd.

Weigh-in Information

**DO NOT BRING ANIMALS**

Beef Weigh-In: Thursday, March 14—Oconto County Fairgrounds, Gillett 5:30 - 7:30 pm
Sheep Weigh-In: Saturday, April 27—Oconto County Fairgrounds, Gillett 9:00 - 10:00 am

Swine Tag Distribution

**DO NOT BRING ANIMALS**

ONLY RFID TAGS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED

Please make arrangements for tag pick-up as identification tags for swine will not be mailed this year. Paperwork will be available on the Oconto County UW-Extension website.

Saturday, April 27—Oconto County Fairgrounds, Gillett 9:00 - 10:00 am
Saturday, May 4—Deadline for identification of swine with submission of photographs and paperwork to Stacie Pienta.
Camp Counselors & Adult Volunteers, come on down!

Our summer camp directors, Laura Huff, Brandon Dehne, Kristin Lipinski and camp liaison Jenna Steeno are gearing up for another great summer camp program this year. Camp dates will be Wednesday, June 12th through Saturday, June 15th. Youth Staff will head up to camp on the evening of Tuesday, June 11th for some special activities to prepare for camp (and Pudgy Pies!!). As a thank you for all your hard work during camp, you stay at camp for FREE!

In order to be eligible for the Camp Counselor role, you must be 15 years old by June 1st. Resource Counselors must be 14 by June 1st. Counselors need to enjoy hanging out with younger youth (grades 3-6), be able to handle being adored by campers and genuinely like to have fun. Each counselor must also attend 8 hours of training provided by our Camp Director & Liaison Team. You may not be thinking about getting a job right now, but when you do, being a camp counselor looks great on your resume. You will build leadership skills, learn to solve problems, develop improve your communication and cooperation skills, and much, much more.

Not sure if you would enjoy being a Camp Counselor or Resource Counselor? Come to our first training and interview. It will be held at the Pound Town Hall in Coleman from 2pm-4pm on February 23rd. This session is less about interviewing and more about working as a group, so come prepared to work as a team with the other youth staff! There will be 3-4 more meetings between now and June, and youth staff are expected to attend all trainings. Future training dates will be announced.

If you are interested in being an Adult Staff member, you must be enrolled as a volunteer on 4-H Online, have attended the Volunteer in Preparation training (training dates are added as needed), and completed a state background check. Contact Ben Hoppe at benjamin.hoppe@ces.uwex.edu or 920-834-6847 if you are interested or would like to know more. Adult Staff will be required to attend one training session prior to camp. Meeting date and time to be announced.

**More camp information will be released in coming newsletters**
Volunteer Opportunities

February 2019 - July 2020 – 4-H Digital Ambassadors

Oconto County 4-H is bringing a Digital Ambassador program to Oconto County, partnering with Microsoft. The program needs 2 adult volunteers and 4-6 youth volunteers (teens between grades 7-11). The youth will serve as Digital Ambassadors who will teach adults in Oconto County communities about the benefits of technology and increase their comfort with digital tools (such as computers and the internet). 2 adults and 2 youth volunteers would travel to Chicago, IL on March 15-16 for additional training, and the Digital Ambassadors would be required to lead 6-10 learning sessions for local community members. Approved travel expenses would be reimbursed as part of the grant.

Contact benjamin.hoppe@ces.uwex.edu for more information!

June 11-June 15 - Camp Counselors & Adult Volunteers

Can’t get enough of camp? Camp counselors and adult volunteers are needed! Camp counselors are 4-H members that must 15 years old by June 1st. Resource counselors must be 14 years old by June 1st. Our camp director and liaison team will lead you through camp counselor training.

For the adults that can’t get enough of camp life, we need you, too! Adult volunteers are always needed to promote the safety and well-being of our campers. More information about volunteering to be a camp counselor or adult volunteer can be found on page 6.

Ongoing – Oconto County 4-H Ambassador Program

Has 4-H made a difference in your life? Do you want to make a difference in the 4-H program in Oconto County? The Oconto County 4-H Leaders’ Association would like to announce the reformation of the county 4-H Ambassadors Program. The Leaders’ Association is looking for any youth interested, especially older youth, to help drive the future of the 4-H program by getting involved in a countywide ambassador program. 2 adults are also needed to help provide guidance.

Oconto County 4-H Ambassadors will be responsible for promoting 4-H throughout the county and assisting at county 4-H events. 4-H is a program for youth, so it depends on the input and development from youth! The first year of the program will also help to determine the shape of the ambassador program for future years.

Youth and adults should plan on about 1-2 hours per month going toward the Ambassador program. Some months might not have any responsibilities, but other months may have a little more when there are larger events (such as the county fair). Meetings may be done in person, but telephone conference calls and video conferences are also likely as well to accommodate with busy schedules.

If you’re interested in either helping or being a part of the Oconto County 4-H Ambassador program, please email benjamin.hoppe@ces.uwex.edu.
Submissions Wanted!
Did you want to share about a successful 4-H event that you just hosted? Do you have an upcoming 4-H event that you want to promote? Do you have a fun experience or 4-H story to share? Send your news, notes, reports, and articles to us along with a photo, and we’ll include in the next issue. See below for our email and mailing addresses.

 Deadline: All contributions are due by the 10th of the month to make it into the next publication.

Feedback
Please do not hesitate to provide feedback, both positive and negative to us. Sharing your thoughts, ideas, and observations helps your Extension Office do the best we can to serve you. Please use the attached Care to Share form sent with the newsletter or send us an email so that we can follow up with you!

How to Contact Us
Telephone: 920-834-6845  Email: 4h@co.oconto.wi.us
Website: http://oconto.extension.wisc.edu  Oconto County 4-H

Staff
Ben Hoppe: 4-H Program Coordinator; benjamin.hoppe@ces.uwex.edu
Jenny Tyczkowski: Extension Program Assistant; jenny.tyczkowski@co.oconto.wi.us

Oconto County 4-H Leader’s Association Board of Directors
Cheryl Meyer, President (Brazeau Eagles)   McKenzie Meyer, Director (County-wide)
Isabella Rennie, Vice President (Pasture Pirates)   Sierra Seizy, Director (Team Green)
Kolin Farrar, Secretary (Southernline)   Ann Sievert, Director (Morgan Badgers)
Arvilla Rusnak, Treasurer (County-wide)

An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements. Please make requests for reasonable accommodations to ensure equal access to educational programs as early as possible preceding the scheduled program, service, or activity.
OCONTO COUNTY 4-H

“Care to Share Form”

This form has been designed to provide valuable input to the Oconto County 4-H program in two ways.

The first is to share ideas and suggestions for all area leaders and youth. We are always looking for new ways to educate our youth. All ideas, no matter if you think we may already be familiar with them, are welcome!

The second purpose is to allow members to express any concerns or problems they may be experiencing. We want to be able to address and correct any problems, but cannot do so if we are unaware of any issues.

Please take a few moments and complete all three sections of this form and sign it. *Forms without all three sections completed and a signature will be disregarded.*

Care to Share Ideas/Suggestions Section

Section 1: Idea or suggestion:

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

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________________________________________________________________________

Section 2: Directions:

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

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Section 3: If possible, please send an example or a photo of the project. Please let us know who is submitting the idea!

________________________________________________________________________

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________________________________________________________________________
Section 1: Describe current concerns or issues:

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Section 2: Describe the specifics of the problem:

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
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________________________________________________________________________

Section 3: Give your suggestion(s) for a possible solution:

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

If the concern or issue is one that needs immediate attention, please make sure you fill out all of the following information. We cannot proceed without verifying the information with you.

Please print:

Name of person completing this form: ______________________________________

Address of person completing form: ______________________________________

Phone number: _________________________________________________________

Email address _________________________________________________________

Signature __________________________ Date ______________

Please return completed forms to:

Oconto County 4-H
301 Washington Street
Oconto, WI 54153

or E-mail: benjamin.hoppe@ces.uwex.edu
MUTUAL OF WAUSAU INSURANCE CORPORATION
APPLICATION FOR 4-H CLUB GRANT PROGRAM
Deadline – April 1st

The purpose of the Mutual of Wausau insurance Corporation 4-H Club Grant Program is to support 4-H Clubs in youth development and to promote civic and leadership responsibilities. Grants will be awarded in the amount of $400 per club. In order to be considered for a grant, your application must be received at the Mutual of Wausau home office by April 1st.

Name of Club:__________________________________________________________

Name, address & phone number of leader:_________________________________  
_______________________________________________________________________

County where Club is located:___________________________________________

Number of members in Club:____________________________________________

List Club activities for the last two years (use separate sheet if needed):________
_______________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________

Purpose for which you are requesting a grant:______________________________
_______________________________________________________________________

List fund raising activities for the project for which the grant is requested:____
_______________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________

Number of members involved in project for which you are requesting grant:____

Other fund raising activities that the Club is involved in:____________________
_______________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________

Insurance Agency, Location, and Agent’s Name that referred this grant program to you:
Carriveau Insurance Agency, Crivitz, Suzanne Deschini

Application Deadline – April 1st
Please complete and return to:
Mutual of Wausau Insurance
Attn: Grant Committee
PO Box 269
Wausau, WI 54402-0269

Revised 11/30/17
January 11, 2019

Dear Livestock Animal Exhibitors,

Wisconsin has replaced the MAQA (Meat Animal Quality Assurance) program with the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) national program. This interactive program provides youth options for annual quality assurance certification.

Exhibitors of the following species in Oconto County must complete Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) national program: beef, dairy, dairy goat(s), meat goat(s), poultry, rabbit, sheep and swine and poultry in order to be eligible to sell in the 2019 Oconto County Youth Fair Sale of Champions. In addition, it will count as one of your educational points for the Oconto County Fair, and be required for those who intend to show beef, sheep, swine, goats, dairy, poultry and rabbits at the 2019 Wisconsin State Fair.

The YQCA training provides a common framework for food animal quality assurance programs, which will strengthen the youth educational experience, improve the care of food animals, and promote a higher level of consumer food safety. In addition, youth will learn about other species of animals; not just the species they show. Each year, youth will complete one new module in each the following categories: Animal Welfare (basic needs, proper animal handling, biosecurity, etc.), Food Safety (medications, medicated feeds, withdrawal times, avoiding residue, etc.), and Character Education (ethics, goal setting, career exploration, etc.).

The YQCA program was peer-reviewed for content and age appropriateness. It is supported by Wisconsin 4-H and FFA leaders. Youth for the Quality Care of Animals training content and modules will demonstrate a progression of topic knowledge in designated age categories (age as of January 1):

- Junior (8-11 years old) • Intermediate (12-14 years old)
- Senior (15-18 years old) • Young Adult (19-21 years old)

The YQCA training is an effort to provide flexibility to accommodate busy seasonal schedules, while providing relevant age-specific food animal quality assurance training. There are three options to become YQCA certified:

- In-person instructor led training—available for juniors (8-11 year olds only)
- Online modules
- Online test-out (NEW for 2019!)

The online test-out option is only available for youth 12, 15, and 19 years old. Online fees associated with the test-out option will only be collected if the test is passed. On average, it will take approximately 60 minutes per year to complete all the required online training modules or in-person training—depending on age and familiarity with presented information.

An EEO/AA employer, the University of Wisconsin-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX and the Americans with Disabilities (ADA) requirements.
Maintaining current information, and developing creative modules on an online learning platform costs a significant amount of money. Youth exhibitors will pay depending on the training option. Youth completing the online modules will pay $12/person/year, and face-to-face trainings offered for juniors (youth age 8-11) only will pay $3/person/year. The fee for the test-out option is pro-rated depending on the age of the youth.

To complete the YQCA online training or register for face-to-face training, log into http://yqca.org. Follow the step-by-step instructions to create a user identity and password. All payments for either the online or in-person training will be made using the YQCA website.

Two in-person trainings will be offered for juniors (8-11 year olds). The dates and locations of the trainings are listed below. Space will be limited, and registration will be taken only through the YQCA website (http://yqca.org).

**2019 YQCA In-Person Trainings for Juniors (8-11 year olds) ONLY:**
- **Thursday, April 11**—Pound Town Hall, Coleman 6:00 - 7:30 pm
- **Saturday, May 4**—Gillett Community Center, 204 E Main Street, Gillett 10:30 am - Noon

If you complete your YQCA training online, it is recommended to print the completion certificate at the end of the online session. Access to the in-person YQCA completion certificate will be available approximately one week following the completing of the instructor led training. The certificate and ten-digit certificate number can only be accessed through your account at http://yqca.org. The certificate with the corresponding ten-digit certificate number will be requested by the Oconto County Fair at the time of fair entries for training verification.

Effective January 1, 2019, several large packers and processors will only purchase from Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) farms. Buyers and stockyards will be confirming compliance at the point of sale. Youth for the Quality Care of Animals is equivalent to certification in Beef Quality Assurance (BQA). No additional certification or training by youth will need to be completed, if they have successfully completed their annual YQCA certification.

If you are not YQCA certified, you will not be eligible to sell in the Sale of Champions at the 2019 Oconto County Fair. Training must be renewed every year for YQCA. Exhibitors must complete all online modules, attend the entire in-person training, or successfully test-out to be certified. Please choose the option that works best for you!

If you have any questions about the YQCA training, please contact Sarah at (920) 834-6845. You may also visit the UW-Extension Wisconsin Youth Livestock Program website (https://fyi.uwex.edu/youthlivestock/yqca/) for additional YQCA information.

Thank you,

Sarah Mills-Lloyd, DVM  
Agriculture Agent—Specializing in Dairy and Livestock  
Oconto County UW-Extension