

# Oconto Clover Connect

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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## November 2023

Hello 4-H Families and Friends,

It seems fall is finally in the air. I hope you have been able to get out and enjoy the beautiful colors and sunny days when we have them. November is such a great reminder of expressing our gratitude for the people and things that bring joy to our lives. Even though the weather may be turning cool on us, things are heating up in 4-H. There are so many great opportunities at the local, state, National and even International levels that you are able to participate in by being a 4-H member. These experiences also create some amazing opportunities for our adult volunteers and chaperones. If you have not already be sure to re-enroll in 4-H online today! If you think some of the things coming up will be fun for your family and friends, be sure to share with them as well. Wishing you all a safe and healthy start to fall and the Holiday Season, hope to see you soon!

Best,

Aimee Elkins

4-H Program Educator Oconto and Marinette Counties  
WI 4 -H Program Delivery Project Manager

## Contact Us

Extension Oconto County

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920-834-6845

<http://oconto.extension.wisc.edu>

 Oconto County 4-H  
Oconto County Courthouse  
301 Washington St.  
Oconto, WI 54153



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

10/29	Leaders Association Meeting – 6:30 pm	Oconto Falls Town Hall
11/1	Annual Charter Paperwork due to Office	
11/30	Bellin Family Night	More info to follow
12/2	Achievement Night	St. Anne's Parish Lena, WI

### Leaders Association Meeting – October 29

Please join us for the next Leaders Association meeting on Sunday, October 29 at 6:30 pm at the Oconto Falls Town Hall. This is an important meeting where they will be having officer elections and will be planning upcoming events. We encourage volunteers, members, and families to attend and share your ideas. We hope to see you there!

### Member Re-Enrollment

As of September 1<sup>st</sup>, members may go to [v2.4honline.com](http://v2.4honline.com) and re-enroll in the 4-H program for 2023-2024. All 4-H members, youth and adult, must re-enroll each year in order to participate in a 4-H club, county, state, national, and international activities. Even if you just became a member in August, you must go back and re-enroll for the New Year.

If you have questions or need any help with the re-enrollment process, feel free to contact the Extension office at 920-834-6845 or [amy.brehmer@co.oconto.wi.us](mailto:amy.brehmer@co.oconto.wi.us).

**\*\*MEMBERS AND LEADERS MUST RE-ENROLL EACH YEAR BY NOVEMBER 30th\*\***

- Regular members must be in third grade or older
- Cloverbuds (children in 5K through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade) should be listed in your club enrollment. Cloverbuds can participate in club activities. They can exhibit at the County Fair, only in the Cloverbud category, and do not receive premiums
- New members can join at any time, but must enroll by April 30<sup>th</sup> to enter in the Fair
- April 30<sup>th</sup> is the deadline to add or drop projects
- You must be enrolled in a project in order to exhibit at the Fair in that project

\*If your child has their own email address, please be sure to update their profile with that information so they receive all of the emails that are sent out\*

### New Family Newsletter

There is a state resource available for new families, each month we will include a link to the newsletter for new families to check out. This month is information on 4-H projects. Click [here](#) to view the newsletter.

## WI 4-H Foundation Celebrates the Arts

The Wisconsin 4-H Foundation provides support for arts and communications programs that encourage youth to develop strong leadership, creative and communications skills. Each year the Foundation highlights 4-H artists through the Celebrate the Arts art contest.

**This year's contest runs November 1, 2023 through January 15, 2024**

All submissions will be online. A link will be made available in late October.

### Description

The Wisconsin 4-H Foundation Celebrates the Arts is a contest, to be held annually for the purpose of:

- Promoting 4-H Arts Programming
- Raising Funds to Support 4-H Art Programs
- Telling the 4-H Story
- Raising Awareness of the WI 4-H Foundation and the 4-H Program

### Proceeds

Proceeds from any Celebrate the Arts events or sales will be split evenly with half invested in the Talen Endowment for 4-H Arts Programming and half used for arts programming in the next 4-H program year.

### Celebrate the Arts 4-H Art Contest

The Wisconsin 4-H Foundation will sponsor the art contest, open to any current Wisconsin 4-H member, with cash prizes totaling nearly \$1,000. **The contest will be held virtually, with photos of all entries submitted electronically.**

**The contest will be broken into nine categories** (Drawing; Painting; Pottery/Ceramics/Clay; Photography; Paper; Fabric/Yarn/Fiber; Any Other Media; 4-H Art (non-photography); 4-H Art (photography)).

Artists are **STRONGLY** encouraged to create art that has a 4-H theme or has root in their 4-H experience (example: a photo taken on a 4-H trip or of another 4-H member working on a 4-H project; a painting inspired by a 4-H event; pottery that incorporates the clover).

Please read the complete **[2023 Art Event Contest Information](#)** before entering your work.



## Cedar Crest Ice Cream Flavor Naming Contest

It's back! The contest runs September 1 through November 15, 2023 and is open to all Wisconsin 4-H clubs. Visit [www.cedarcresticecream.com](http://www.cedarcresticecream.com) (the link will not be "live" until contest opens) for details and entry forms, and find links on our website ([www.Wis4HFoundation.org](http://www.Wis4HFoundation.org)).

## 4-H Thriving Survey

This fall, Wisconsin 4-H will be encouraging members (ages 13-18) to complete a survey about their 4-H experience. The survey was developed by National 4-H Leaders (<https://helping-youth-thrive.extension.org/>) and will help Wisconsin 4-H to learn about the quality of our programs. The information will help to show how 4-H helps young people to learn new things, develop leadership skills, manage goals, set high personal standards, create positive academic attitudes, and other skills that lead to long-term success in life.

The survey will be sent to all Wisconsin 4-H members by e-mail in the first week of October. Youth who complete the survey will be entered into a raffle to win a \$25 gift card!

For more information on the 4-H Thriving Model, visit [4-H Thriving Model – Wisconsin 4-H](#).

Please keep an eye out for messages and more information about this important survey.



## Project Support for Your Sparks

Youth who join 4-H are often excited about the many, many projects they can choose to explore. There are so many Sparks (or things they want to learn about)! Yet, if their Spark doesn't have a local project leader to support their learning, that excitement can turn to questions. They may not know how to get started on their own.

Clover to the rescue!! Clover is an online smorgasbord of sparks, interactive activities, and fun. It was created by the National 4-H Council in collaboration with more than 100 universities throughout the United States. And it's FREE and ready for youth, parents, and educators to dive into.

To start exploring:

1. Go to [4-h.org/clover](https://4-h.org/clover)
2. Create a login
3. Click on activities
4. Search for your Sparks



It's that simple. In Clover, you can connect with others in your club or group, track your progress through pins and achievements, and best of all, explore your Sparks! Most activities can be accessed in different formats (interactive online, basic webpage, or download PDF), making access flexible based on your local needs and bandwidth.

An honest note about the site:

- Is Clover perfect? No.
- Might there be moments of frustration as you learn to navigate the system? Most likely.
- Does it get easier as you go? Yes.
- Is the content worth it? Absolutely!

No project leader? No problem. Have fun exploring your Sparks with Clover!

## Wisconsin Herd 4-H Night

Wisconsin 4-H night with the Herd is Saturday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7 pm. If you would like to get seating for your club to sit together please contact Trevor Kroll 920-744-0263 or [tkroll@wisconsinherd.com](mailto:tkroll@wisconsinherd.com). See the attached flyer for more details.

## Bellin Family Night

Join us for Bellin Family Night on Thursday, November 30, at the Bond Center in Oconto. They will be having a Carnival theme, so come for games, snacks and FUN!



## Important Annual Club Financial and Charter Paperwork Update

Each 4-H club or group is required to complete financial review and Charter renewal process annually. The deadline for submitting the financial review (covering the fiscal year July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023) to the extension office was September 1st, if your club has not submitted the financial review, this must be done as soon as possible. The deadline for submitting the annual club charter to the extension office is November 1st. These dates are set by the UW- Madison, Division of Extension state office to comply with IRS deadlines. A club that does not complete paperwork in a timely fashion risks no longer being recognized as a 4-H club or group which could lead to dissolution of the club. If you need assistance in completing these documents contact Aimee at: [aimee.elkins@wisc.edu](mailto:aimee.elkins@wisc.edu).



## Wisconsin 4-H Statewide Programs Booklet is LIVE!

The Wisconsin 4-H Statewide Programs Booklet is LIVE! Check out all the amazing things you can do with Wisconsin 4-H, from Arts Camp to Citizenship Washington Focus to Area Animal Science Days, there's something here for YOU! <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/.../statewide-events-and.../>

## Reminder for 4-H Events and Experiences

As a reminder: a portion of costs for camps, events, and experiences are often generously covered by the Oconto County 4-H Leaders Association utilizing funds obtained through the 4-H food stand and other fundraising efforts. There are also state scholarships available [here](#). We never want finances or the need for special accommodations to be a barrier for our members participating in any 4-H events. Please reach out to Aimee if you have any requests, needs, or questions.



## Scholarships

The Wisconsin 4-H Foundation awards over \$20,000 in scholarships annually. The application period will open 12/1/2023, and will close 5pm, 3/1/2024. Watch for notices in inboxes and newsletters. Current information is always found at: <https://wis4hfoundation.org/scholarships>.



## 4-H Arts Camp

**4-H Arts Camp** is the premiere art event for middle school youth in Wisconsin. Join your peers to embrace your creativity in learning about various types of art in an outdoor setting! There are so many opportunities to explore various interests through theater, music, visual arts, dance, and photography while meeting new friends and experiencing new things.

- Who: youth grades 6-8
- When: November 18-19, 2023
- Where: Camp Upham Woods, Wisconsin Dells, WI
- Registration will be open in [4HOnline](#) October 1-27, 2023.

For more information on registration for Arts Camp, please visit the [Arts Camp](#) page on the Wisconsin 4-H [website](#).

## Achievement Night – Save the Date

Achievement night will be held on Saturday, December 2. The doors will open at 5:30 and a potluck will begin at 6:00. It will be held at St. Anne's Parish in Lena. More information to follow.



## Winter Camp

Plans are underway for yet another amazing Teen Leadership Winter Overnight Camp opportunity for youth in grades 7 and up. If you have attended in the past and would like to participate in the planning process this year please reach out to Aimee at [aimee.elkins@wisc.edu](mailto:aimee.elkins@wisc.edu). More information to come!



## State Arts Team

Two State 4-H Arts Groups are formed every year to give 4-H youth the opportunity to develop their artistic and leadership skills. They then have the opportunity for real-world applications of these skills at the Summer Academy and Fall Forum.

**4-H Drama Company** creates a stage performance involving acting, song and dance in the five days leading up to the Summer Academy. Show content is a collaborative effort between company members and their director. Each Drama Company member contributes ideas for the show and works with the group to problem solve issues on the set and in the script.

**4-H Art Team** creates artwork around the theme of the Summer Academy as well as designing and organizing the Summer Academy Art Exhibit, reception and guided exhibit tours. The team members also teach seminars and train to be peer leaders for county and regional events including Fall Forum. The 4-H Art Team is led by a professional artist who teaches team members artistic techniques using a variety of mediums.

Applications close January 16, 2024. For more information and to apply please visit <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/statewide-events-and-opportunities/state-arts-teams/>.



## State 4-H Horse Leadership Conference

WI 4-H Horse Leadership Conference will be held Saturday, November 11 at UW-River Falls. It will be open to 4-H volunteers and 4-H member's grade 7 and older. All youth member's need to be accompanied by a guardian or chaperone for this experience. For more information please click [here](#).





## American Spirit

### About American Spirit East – June 14-23, June 21-30, July 5-14, 2024

All youth grades 8-10 are invited to experience history & heritage by immersing in a 10-day bus journey to the East Coast and Canada — Youth-led content throughout the experience — Increase knowledge of American history while experiencing where it occurred — Dynamic exposure to diverse cultural experiences and perspectives of the foundation of our nation.

### Highlighted Location(s):

- Nappanee, Indiana
- Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- New York City, New York
- Boston, Massachusetts
- Lexington/Concord, Massachusetts
- Gloucester, Massachusetts
- Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada (A passport will be needed!)

Pre-registration is available in 4-H online until November 15. Youth and their parent/guardian must complete the online registration together; it includes questions for the youth participant to answer.

For more information visit <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/statewide-events-and-opportunities/american-spirit-east/>.



## 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 15th 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 send us an email so that we can follow up with you.

# Oconto Clover Connect

## How to Contact Us

**Telephone:** 920-834-6845

**Email:** [4h@co.oconto.wi.us](mailto:4h@co.oconto.wi.us)

**Website:** <https://oconto.extension.wisc.edu/>



**Oconto County 4-H**



UW-MADISON EXTENSION

## Staff

Aimee Elkins: 4-H Program Educator; [aimee.elkins@wisc.edu](mailto:aimee.elkins@wisc.edu)

Amy Brehmer: Extension Program Assistant; [amy.brehmer@co.oconto.wi.us](mailto:amy.brehmer@co.oconto.wi.us)

## Oconto County 4-H Leader's Association Board of Directors

President – Brooke Schaal (Little Seedlings)

Vice President - Brigid McDowell (Little River)

Secretary – Amber Seitz (Morgan Badgers)

Ann Sievert - Treasurer (Morgan Badgers)

An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act requirements.

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UW-MADISON EXTENSION

MARINETTE AND OCONTO COUNTY 4-H

# SEASONAL TAKE AND LEARN KITS



EXPLORE 5 PROJECT AREAS FOR \$5.00!  
SUPPLIES ARE LIMITED, RESERVE YOURS TODAY!  
CONTACT AMY BY NOVEMBER 7TH  
AMY.BREHMER@CO.OCONTO.WI.US  
OR 920-834-6845

KITS WILL BE READY FOR  
DISTRIBUTION MID-LATE  
NOVEMBER

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Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

# Wisconsin 4-H Night

OSHKOSH ARENA | 1212 S MAIN ST OSHKOSH, WI 54902

Join friends, family, and staff of Wisconsin 4-H for a fun night out with the Wisconsin Herd! All kids within the 4-H Club group purchasing through this link will get to participate in:

- Pre-game Career in Sports Panel
- Pre-Game watch (sitting courtside, and receive autographs from the Herd for kids)
- Jockey High Five Tunnel

**FOR TICKET INFORMATION:  
SCAN THE QR CODE!  
OR VISIT:**

[fevognm.com/Wisconsin4h](http://fevognm.com/Wisconsin4h)



**GAME:  
SATURDAY FEBRUARY 3<sup>RD</sup>  
@7PM**



**VS**



**LIMITED INVENTORY! SIGN UP  
FOR TICKETS TODAY!**



**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR WITH QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT:  
TREVOR KROLL AT 920.744.0263 OR [TKROLL@WISCONSINHERD.COM](mailto:TKROLL@WISCONSINHERD.COM)**



# GRATITUDE PROMPTS

someone  
you love

something  
that makes  
you smile

your  
favorite  
food

an activity  
you enjoy

a place  
you like to  
go

your  
favorite  
book

a way you  
can help  
others

a good  
friend

a way  
someone  
helped you

something  
that makes  
you feel  
safe

something  
that is  
useful

a place  
you love

something  
inside

something  
in nature

an  
opportunity  
you have

something  
that makes  
you laugh

a skill you  
have

people  
who bring  
you joy

a beautiful  
sound

something  
about fall