



## St. Croix County 4-H Communicator

January / February 2015

[www.uwex.edu/ces/cty/stcroix/4h/](http://www.uwex.edu/ces/cty/stcroix/4h/)

(715) 531-1930

[www.stcroixcounty4-h.org](http://www.stcroixcounty4-h.org)

Dear 4-H Members, Families, Leaders and Friends,

2014 has been a wonderful, challenging and exciting year for 4-H in St. Croix County. We have gained new members, new leaders, and tried new activities.

As we come to the close of this calendar year, I encourage you to take time to reflect on the past year in 4-H. This quote from Margaret J. Wheatley emphasizes the importance of reflection “Without reflection, we go blindly on our way, creating more unintended consequences, and failing to achieve anything useful.” I encourage you to pause and ask yourself a few questions:

What has been my greatest success as a 4-H member this year?

What has been the greatest achievement of our 4-H Club/Program?

What have I contributed to the 4-H Club/Program?

What are our greatest challenges/disappointments?

Who have I personally thanked for their contributions to 4-H?

The insights we gain may help us as we set our goals and resolutions for the New Year.

Best Wishes for the Holiday Season!

Reflecting on 4-H Clover,  
Eileen



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## Summer 4-H Employment

This summer, St. Croix County UW-Extension will be hiring a 4-H summer assistant position. The position description, details the responsibilities for the position will be posted on the UW-Extension website at <http://stcroix.uwex.edu> in January.

The position is available to college students who may have an interest in exploring a career in UW-Extension. I would appreciate your help in recruiting potential applicants for the summer employment opportunity at the St. Croix County UWEX Office.

Thanks so much for your assistance. If you have any questions or need further information, please don't hesitate to call.

### Pancake Breakfast

March 1; 8:00 am - 12:00 pm  
Baldwin American Legion

There will be Silent Auction items and a bake sale to go along with the breakfast or to take home. Come enjoy pancakes, scrambled eggs, potatoes, sausages, fruit and assorted beverages! The costs are: 5 and under are free, 6-11 is \$3.00 and 12 and over is \$6.00. All funds benefit the FFA and 4-H livestock exhibitors!

If you have any questions, please go to the website at [www.stcroixbreedingstock.com](http://www.stcroixbreedingstock.com) or call Warren or Lori DeBoer at 715-263-4201.

Clubs are welcome to donate items for the silent auction or bake sale by dropping it off any items by 8:00 am on March 1.

## Communicator Reminders

### Communicator Available On-Line

The 4-H Communicator continues to be online after fall enrollment is entered into the 4-H Online Program! Here at the UW-Extension office we are trying to do our part in helping keep our planet healthy and reduce our costs. Instead of receiving the

newsletter in your mailbox, we continue to provide an electronic version of the newsletter to those that have access to internet. We will continue to send hard copy of the newsletter to those that wish to receive it.

### Communicator Deadline

Do you have news you want included in the 4-H Communicator? The deadline for having news in the Communicator is by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. Please make sure you keep this in mind so that we can get the Communicator out on time.

## Leader News

### St. Croix County 4-H Policy

4-H, like any other group you might join, has expectations for being a member. The St. Croix County 4-H Policy is where you will find all the rules and regulations for our 4-H program. The 2014-2015 policy has been posted on the web site. If you would like a hard copy please contact the UWEX Office. We'll be happy to provide you with one.

### 4-H Website

UW-Extension's website can be located at: [www.stcroixcounty4h.org](http://www.stcroixcounty4h.org). This site will share more general county information such as the 4-H Communicator, General Organizational Leader information, Leader Council information, forms and other resources.

For more information or suggestions for this site contact Melissa Nawrocki at 715-531-1930 or [melissa.nawrocki@co.saint-croix.wi.us](mailto:melissa.nawrocki@co.saint-croix.wi.us).

### 4-H Enrollment

#### Deadlines for new enrollments

Remember, new members enrolled by March 1 may participate in the 4-H program and County Fair without restrictions if they have met all the guidelines for the projects in which they have enrolled. New members enrolled between March 2 and June 1 may enroll and exhibit in non-animal projects only.



## **Leader's Council Meetings**

Jan 20, 7:00 pm

Feb 17, 7:00 pm

Ag Services & Education Center, Classroom A

All of the Leader's Council Meetings are open meetings. Anyone is invited to attend at any time. Agenda items are due 10 days before the meeting date. If you have any items to discuss with the council, please get your agenda items to Jackie Kumm. The agendas and minutes are posted on the St. Croix County UW-Extension 4-H Web Site under Leaders' Council.

## **4-H Online Leader's Training**

Tuesday, January 20

7:00pm

Ag Services & Education Center, Baldwin

Do you want to know how to run reports for your club or project area? Melissa will demonstrate the many reports and resources Organizational Leaders and Project Leaders have available through 4-H Online. Come and learn what you have been missing. The demonstration will start at 7:00pm and last 15-20 minutes. All leaders are welcome.

## **Cloverbud Leader Training**

Tuesday, January 13, 2:00pm and 6:30 pm

Ag Services & Education Center, Baldwin

Are you looking for new resources for your club's Cloverbud project or do you just want to learn about the Cloverbud program in St. Croix County? This training is designed for Cloverbud leaders as well as parents of Cloverbud members.

## **Mini Talent Explosion**

February 21 (Drama & Music)

February 22 (Speeches & Demos)

Entries due Jan 10

Baldwin-Woodville High School

This year the Mini Talent Explosion will be held on two days. February 21 will be just the drama and music performances and the following day will be the speeches and demonstrations.

The purpose of the Talent Explosion is to recognize and celebrate the artistic accomplishments of 4-H members with the primary focus on participation and education.

Specific guidelines with all the details and the registration materials will be mailed directly to club organizational leaders. Everything will also be available on the UW-Extension 4-H web site, click on the Mini Talent Explosion link.

## ***Club Opportunities***

### **Twelve Months of Giving**

The Food Resource Collaborative of St. Croix County is inviting area community organizations to participate in various monthly collections in 2014 to benefit local food pantries and charities. Choose to participate in one month, four months, or all twelve months. All contributions can be collected at your site all month and then dropped off at your local food pantry. If you have questions about the local pantry, please call Mary Lestrud at (715) 531-1930.

**January and February:** "It's Cold Outside". Bring your favorite cans of soup, stew, hash, chili & crackers.

### **Help keep Mailing List Up-to-Date**

If you have a change of address or are receiving our newsletter and would like to be taken off our mailing list or prefer to view it online, please contact our office at 715-531-1930.

## **2015 Hudson Hot Air Affair**

February 6-8

Hudson Hot Air Affair has chosen a theme of Agri-Tourism "Field to Flight- E-I-E-I-O-O-O". The Fair, Leaders Council, 4-H, and Extension, as well as our local agricultural industries will have several opportunities to promote agriculture in partnership with Hot Air event activities.

Some events will be held prior to the actual Hot Air Affair, such as "Fair Day" at Family Fresh in Hudson. A complete list of activities and information will be included in the weekly updates, but please keep this wonderful opportunity to promote ourselves in mind and think about how you might be able to participate.

# Youth News/ Opportunities

## Ambassadors

Congratulation to our 12 new ambassadors  
The ambassadors are looking forward to a wonderful year full of fun and new leadership experiences. Be sure to watch for us at county events and give us a shout if you would like us to come and visit with your club.



Front: 1 to r - Nick Lentz, Kaylie Marshall, Megan Feyereisen, Abby Weller and Jacob Schurtz  
Back: 1 to r - Riley Hammer, Heidi Sandquist, Samantha Michaud, Harly Lentz, Johanna Knutson, Allison Mangan and Catherine Schurtz

## St. Croix County 4-H Showchoir

Applications due: January 31

4-H members in grades 6-13<sup>th</sup> are welcome to apply to the 4-H Showchoir. There is no audition, only a willingness to learn music to sing and have fun moving while singing. Applications can be found on the UW-Extension website or e-mailing the director, Nancy Burman at: [music\\_mommy@hotmail.com](mailto:music_mommy@hotmail.com)  
Application deadline is January 31. There is a \$100 fee to be in the choir, plus members will need to purchase dance shoes, and some clothing items.

Rehearsals will be various weekends and Thursday evenings throughout the spring, and some days in the summer. Some dates are already listed on the web site at <https://scc4hshowchoir.shutterfly.com>. We are in the process of setting up the performance schedule. Please contact Nancy if you have any questions regarding rehearsal and performance dates.

The Choir is open to boys AND girls from all 4-H clubs. We have a great time singing together, learning to be coordinated with the dance steps, and performing at the county and state fairs.

Come join the St. Croix County 4-H Showchoir for a great summer experience as part of your 4-H program!!

## THE SHOWCHOIR IS LOOKING FOR MUSICIANS:

The St. Croix County 4-H Showchoir needs a guitar player, & drummers to aid in the 2014 shows and performances. A sound tech. can learn about the equipment, and will still need to come to all performances if someone is interested in helping with this position. If you are interested in these positions, please contact director, Nancy Burman at [music\\_mommy@hotmail.com](mailto:music_mommy@hotmail.com)

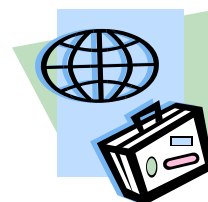
## Host Families Sought for One-Month 4-H Japan and Korea Exchange Programs

The 4-H international exchange program is a GREAT way to learn about your world, make new friends, and generally have a super time with people! You, as the host, do not need to do too much, other than include the visitor in your family's day to day life & provide them with a bed (futons work well). Students come to us from a variety of countries and stay for about 4 weeks in the summer. You can go to the web site to learn more: <http://wi4hinternational.org/>

Applications are being accepted NOW, and the sooner you get going, the better your chances of getting what/where you want - especially for the older kids.

DO seriously consider this!!! Our family has made life-long friends in Japan, Poland, Switzerland.... etc. And we have been able to visit them, too. Wow - what fun we have had. Join us!!

Drop a note if you have any questions to Nancy Burman at [music\\_mommy@hotmail.com](mailto:music_mommy@hotmail.com)





## **National 4-H Congress-Atlanta, GA**

November 27-December 2, 2015

Applications Due: February 1, 2015

### **“Become a Catalyst of Change”**

National 4-H Congress is the premier event of the 4-H program. This spring 75 youth will be selected from Wisconsin to attend. The Congress provides youth educational opportunities that are not available at the state level. Applicants must be in 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade at the time of application. The maximum age for attendance is 18 as of January 1 of the year of travel. For more information see the website: <http://4h.uwex.edu/events/congress>.

To apply: complete the Trip Application Form (ME) which is on the website:

<http://stcroix.uwex.edu/files/2010/09/ME-form-2014-2015.pdf>. Interviews will be held sometime in February.

## **4-H Camp Counselors Needed**

Applications due February 1

Interviews scheduled as needed

Ag Services & Education Center

Do you enjoy working with younger members in 4-H? Have you had experience planning activities for younger members? Have you worked with other members your age to organize group activities? If you answered yes to any of these questions, think about applying to be a summer camp counselor. It is one of the most fun Leadership Development opportunities you can be part of.

Send a completed application to the UWEX office by the deadline. We'll let you know what time you need to be there for interviews! Selected camp counselors need to be able to attend the overnight camp counselor training & planning.

Applications are available by returning the interest form in the back of the newsletter to receive an application by mail.



## **Wisconsin 4-H & Youth Conference**

### **Applications**

Due February 1<sup>st</sup>

**ATTENTION** 4-H members grades 7-10!! Don't miss a GREAT opportunity to travel to Madison for the 2015 Wisconsin 4-H & Youth Conference, June 22-25. You can enjoy a week of leadership learning and fun on the UW-Madison Campus!

The Wisconsin 4-H & Youth Conference is an experience that can create a lifetime of "4-H memories." All you need is a simple application form to apply. Invite a 4-H friend to join you in applying. St. Croix County is able to send a number of youth! For more information:

<http://www.uwex.edu/ces/4h/events/youthconf/index.cfm>.

Here's how the process will work:

4-H members interested in the opportunity can get the form from the web at <http://stcroix.uwex.edu> or from the Extension Office.

Application forms are due in the Extension Office by February 1st.

Interviews will be held in February. Applicants will be notified prior to their interview.

## **Key Award for 4-H Leadership**

ME forms due March 1

The Key Award is one of the most prestigious leadership awards presented to 4-H members. It is a program that recognizes members who have demonstrated consistent growth in 4-H involvement, developed and applied their leadership skills and actively participated in the leadership of their 4-H club and community.

Eligibility requirements include: Graduation from high school, Completed at least 6 yrs of 4-H, Completed at least 1 year of Youth Leadership

Key Awards will be presented to the recipients at the County Fair. ME forms & the Key Award Cover Letter are available on the UW-Extension web site or return the interest form in the back of the newsletter.

**St. Croix County 4-H  
Leaders Scholarships**  
Applications due Mar 1

There are eight (8) scholarships available. A member may receive only one scholarship sponsored by the St. Croix County 4-H Leaders' Association. Members pursuing a degree in nursing may also want to apply for the Betty Jean Utecht Forgivable Loan, which has a separate application.

Any St. Croix County 4-H member who is a graduating high school senior or has graduated from high school with a GPA of 2.5 or above is eligible.

**General Selection Criteria:**

- Active in all areas or 4-H involvement
- Demonstrated leadership beyond local club level
- Sense of direction in furthering education
- 2.5 grade average

Five scholarships are for any post high school education. One scholarship is for a teaching related field and one for study in a health field. The Forgivable Loan is for study in nursing.

Again this year: **4-H Horse Project \$250 Scholarship....**Financial support for any field of study. To a graduated senior who has been in good standing with the horse project for 3 years.

**All applications** can be found online at [www.uwex.edu/ces/cty/stcroix](http://www.uwex.edu/ces/cty/stcroix).

**YELL**

(Youth Engaged in Learning about Leadership)  
TBD

Be a college student for a day! Come make new friends while strengthening your leadership skills through interactive sessions, networking opportunities and on-campus service.

For more information and registration forms go to the website at: <http://buffalo.uwex.edu/yell> to be posted sometime in January.

## *Naturespace*

**Shooting Sports Orientation  
Registration**

Monday, March 23

Tuesday, April 7

7:00 pm

Ag Service and Education Center, Baldwin

All 4-H members who are signed up for shooting sports are required to attend one of our orientation and registration meetings with a parent in order to participate in our training and practice sessions this summer.

This will qualify you to compete in our shooting sports competition for the fair. You must attend at least two of our practice and training sessions to qualify for the competition shoot.

A \$10.00 fee per member is required at registration. If you have any questions please contact Dan Frye at [mlfrye@baldwin-telecom.net](mailto:mlfrye@baldwin-telecom.net) or 715-688-6779 or Dave Smith at [Lomac@baldwin-telecom.net](mailto:Lomac@baldwin-telecom.net) or 715-684-2966.

### **Nature Space Project Members**

Are you familiar with Wildlife WHEP (Wildlife Habitat Education Program) WI 4-H?

Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H offers hands-on learning activities, workshops, wildlife contests, wildlife art, and community service activities as opportunities of learning for 4-H members and their families. It is open to all 4-H youth members in grades 3 through 13. The activities are led by 4-H youth leaders and 4-H adult volunteer leaders. It's available in all Wisconsin counties. Visit the website: <http://fyi.uwex.edu/whepwi4h/> for more information.



# Arts / Photography

## Wisconsin 4-H Arts Programs & State Group Opportunities

**State 4-H Teams.** A unique aspect of the Wisconsin 4-H Arts and Communication Program is the opportunity, as a high school-aged youth, to participate in a state group to learn and study the art with an adult adviser and contribute to a state event. If you are interested in applying to be a member of one of the state 4-H Groups or Art Team, Drama Company, Showcase Singers, or Photo Team. The application process is done on-line at: <http://fyi.uwex.edu/4hartswisconsin/state-arts-groups>.

**4-H ArtBeat** was created for 4-H members in grades 3-5 and their parents and leaders, 4-H ArtBeat is the introductory program for Wisconsin 4-H Arts and Communication! 4-H members will explore their own creativity while discovering the great variety of 4-H Arts & Communication experiences available to them now and in the near future. Session leaders will be 4-H older youth, adult leaders and 4-H staff members with a wealth of experience to share. Youth and adult participants will rotate through a variety of sessions which are hands-on and active and held at various sites throughout camp, including outdoors.

**4-H ArtBeat South** will be March 20-21 at Upham Woods. Applications are due February 20, 2015. Details: <http://fyi.uwex.edu/4hartswisconsin/artbeat>.

The (*to be determined*) fee will include all materials and supplies, special snacks, overnight lodging and breakfast and lunch on Saturday. Why not get a whole carload of youth and adults together from your county for some genuine 4-H bonding time?

### Art Lab

January 31-February 1

Upham Woods, WI Dells

Registration Deadline: January 6

The 2015 Art Lab will be held January 30-31 at Upham Woods. The mission of the Art Lab is to provide an in-depth and focused experience in the "art track" of choice. Tracks for the 2015 Art Lab include: Taekwondo, Photography, Digital

Storytelling, Theatre Arts, Film Making, Basketry and Print Making! Each participant chooses one track for the entire weekend. If you love art and would like to have a 4-H camping experience at Camp Upham Woods in beautiful Wisconsin Dells, consider attending Art Lab.

Additional information, a brochure, the registration form and other required forms are found at: <http://fyi.uwex.edu/4hartswisconsin/art-lab>. The registration process has changed from previous years so please make sure you complete all required forms completely. The registration fee is \$50.00 this year.

## Photography Project Meetings

Hello Photography Members, Parents and Leaders!!

The New Year will soon be here and so it is time to start thinking of projects and what you would like to accomplish in your photography project this year.

I have not had any luck getting anyone to help go through the project criteria for the fair book so at this time things are going to stay pretty much the same. I will post changes in the upcoming Communicators and on our Facebook Page ~ SCCPHOTOGRAPHYPROJECT. Our email address is [sccphotographyproject@gmail.com](mailto:sccphotographyproject@gmail.com). Please send any questions there! Thank you!

We will still have the Mandatory Meeting requirement. For this I would really like the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year project members to attend a county meeting at the Ag Center in Baldwin. Two of them will be planned this year. All photography members are welcome to these meetings and there will be speakers (other than me!!). Members that have been in photography can do the Alternative Project and yes, you can do both! The Alternative Project can be any one of the following: attend a photography class, if you are also in scouts earn the merit badge, shadow a photographer during a photo shoot, a class at school, etc. I will have a list of approved places/events posted soon. There is also paperwork created so that if you choose something other than a county meeting it can be signed, dated, and a phone number listed.

Watch for dates for the meetings ~ planning the first one for March 2015.

Kay Jacobsen ~ County Photography Project Leader

# Animal Sciences

## Livestock Committee Meeting

January 13, 7:30 pm

February 10, 7:30 pm

**\*Meetings held at UWEX office unless otherwise noted.**

All of the Meat Animal Committee meetings are open meetings. You are welcome to attend anytime. Please call or email Marla Butler at 715-379-6238 or [butlermarla@hotmail.com](mailto:butlermarla@hotmail.com) to get items on the agenda no later than 10 days prior to the meeting.

## Mandatory Livestock Rules Meetings

Sunday, January 11; 1:00 pm

Tuesday, January 13; 6:30pm

All exhibitors (regardless of age) AND their parents will be required to attend ONE of the Rules Meetings. The meeting you attend will not count towards your clinic requirements. We will be going over the rules and the changes from previous years. ATTENDANCE by both exhibitor and parent/legal guardian is REQUIRED.

All meetings will be held at the Ag Services and Education Center in Baldwin. If you have any questions, please contact a member of the Livestock Committee or email [stcroixlivestock@yahoo.com](mailto:stcroixlivestock@yahoo.com).



## Meat Animal Quality Assurance Clinic (MAQA)

Sunday, March 22; 1-4pm

St. Croix Central High School

This is a **MANDATORY** clinic for the **BREEDING STOCK** project members and **MEAT ANIMAL** project members to show at the St. Croix county fair!

You must arrive **ON TIME** and **STAY UNTIL THE END** in order to meet the MAQA requirement. A second MAQA will be offered in June with a date to be determined yet.

## 4-H Meats Judging Contest

February 14, 12:30pm

Registration Deadline: February 8

UW Madison Meat Lab

Registration is from 12:30 to 1 p.m. with the contest starting at 1 p.m. This Contest tests the knowledge of youth in placement of carcass and retail cut classes, carcass grading, retail cut identification and a quiz. This contest occurs annually with the first place senior team going to Kansas City, MO and second place senior team traveling to Denver, Co. There is a Junior Division as well.

All of the information including the registration form pertaining to this contest is located on the Extension Youth Livestock Website:

<http://fyi.uwex.edu/youthlivestock/programs/4hmeatscontest>.

If you have any questions please contact, Bernie O'Rourke, Extension Youth Livestock Specialist at [borourke2@ansci.wisc.edu](mailto:borourke2@ansci.wisc.edu) or 608-263-4304.

## Livestock Quiz Bowl

March 7, 2015 (registration at 9am)

Competition starts at 9:30 am

UW-Madison Animal Science Dept

Livestock Bowl is a quiz competition where all the questions are about beef, sheep, swine, and meat goat topics and students use a buzzer in order to answer the questions. Teams compete in a double elimination format by giving oral answers to questions posed by a moderator. Each match has both an individual and toss-up question round. The winning 4-H senior team will represent Wisconsin at the National 4-H Livestock Quiz Bowl competition in Omaha, NE at the AKSARBEN Livestock Exhibition.

Skillathon contest is made up of a written quiz and learning stations such as breed identification, feed identification, equipment identification as well as some team activities such as demonstrating evaluation skills. The top Senior level 4-H team will represent Wisconsin at the National 4-H Skillathon Contest, held each fall in Louisville.

Competition in Quiz Bowl & Skillathon encourages members to develop a more complete knowledge of animals and related subjects. This contest provides an educational program for all project members,



including those who may not own a project animal, and provides a way to develop self-confidence. These programs are a great parallel to some similar programs that breed associations and other organizations conduct.

For more information please visit the website: <http://fyi.uwex.edu/youthlivestock/programs/quizbowlskillathon> or by contacting Bernie O'Rourke at 608-263-4304 or [borourke2@ansci.wisc.edu](mailto:borourke2@ansci.wisc.edu).

### **Wisconsin Pork Association Offers Youth Pig Project Scholarships**

The Wisconsin Pork Association Youth Committee is offering Youth Pig Project scholarships, designed to assist 4-H and FFA members in establishing swine projects that can lead to development of life skills and career opportunities in the Wisconsin pork industry.

**4-H and FFA youth are eligible to apply for a \$50.00 scholarship used to offset costs associated with their 2015 pig project. Up to ten \$50.00 scholarships will be awarded. Age divisions are as follows: Ages 9-12, 13-15, and 16-19 (as of January 1, 2015).**

In the application, youth must provide project goals for the year; PQA and/or MAQA certification date; a simple project budget; future goals and how they relate to the pork industry; and "why should the WPA select you for the scholarship." To receive a copy of the application, please contact the WPA office at 1-800-822-7675 or download the application from the website at [www.wppa.org](http://www.wppa.org).

Interested youth must complete and mail the Youth Pig Project application form no later than Feb 1, 2015, to: WPA, P.O. Box 327, Lancaster, WI 53813. Youth who receive a scholarship will be asked to complete a follow-up questionnaire after their project year is complete. For an application visit: <http://fyi.uwex.edu/youthlivestock/2014/12/02/wisconsin-pork-association-offers-youth-pig-project-scholarships>.



### **Shepherd's Clinic and Trade Show**

January 31, 2015

Registration: 8-8:45am

WITC Conference Center; Rice Lake

"More Sheep, More Profit...Growing the Sheep Industry in Wisconsin" is the theme of the 2015 Shepherd's Clinic and Trade Show. This day long workshop features concurrent educational sessions for beginning to experienced shepherds on a wide variety of topics. Also included are a trade show, silent auction, and youth program, along with a roast lamb and baked chicken luncheon. Something new for this year's Shepherd's Clinic is a photo contest. The luncheon program includes results of the photo contest, ISBA awards and scholarship presentation. Registration is from 8:00 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. with continental breakfast served until 9 a.m.

Featured speakers include:

- Greg Brickner, DVM, Wonewoc, WI, specializing in Small Ruminant Medicine
- Carol Wagner, Hidden Valley Farm & Woolen Mill, Valders, WI
- Dave Thomas, Animal Science Professor and Sheep Specialist, University of Wisconsin
- David Kammel, Agricultural Engineer, University of Wisconsin
- Justin Luther, Animal Science Professor, University of Wisconsin- River Falls
- Shawn Erickson, Sheep Producer
- Brian Johnston, Sheep Producer and Lamb Barbeque Expert, Luck, WI
- More presenters will be added

Topics presented will focus on profitability, sustainability, sheep health, and nutrition. Special sessions will be offered for beginning shepherds covering flock management, economics, and sheep health. A producer panel of experienced shepherds will also share their knowledge during one of the breakout sessions.

An outstanding Youth Program is being planned for young shepherds enrolled in 4-H and FFA. The Youth Program will feature live sheep where young shepherds can learn some of the basic skills needed in handling and treating sheep and lambing time management. The Youth Program will wrap up with a hands-on Skillathon.

Registration costs \$30.00 for ISBA members and \$40.00 for non-members if registered by January

23rd. New this year...all Wisconsin Sheep Breeder Coop members will receive \$5 off their registration fee. The youth program fee is \$15 per youth. There is an additional charge of \$10 per adult and \$5 for each youth not pre-registered by January 23rd. The registration fee covers a continental breakfast, lunch, and program expenses.

Additional information is available on-line at [www.indianheadsheep.com](http://www.indianheadsheep.com) or by contacting Tim Jergenson at 715-537-6250

## **Ag Truths not Tails Conference**

Upham Woods, WI Dells  
TBD

This is for youth ages 13 to one year post high school in the project areas of Dairy, Beef, Sheep, Swine and Goats.

This conference will focus on Animal Welfare and leaders in the Wisconsin Livestock and Dairy Industry will lead you through this interactive experience. Subscribe to this website to receive conference updates. **This is a great opportunity for county educational credits.** For more information, check out the following website: <http://fyi.uwex.edu/agtruthsnottails>.

## **State Fair Information:**

August 6-16, 2015  
West Allis, WI

**NEW for 2015:** Youth interested in showing market beef, sheep or swine at the 2015 WI State Fair will NEED to get their animal projects DAN/RFID identified through the Wisconsin Livestock Identification Consortium (WLIC) by the respective State Fair eligibility deadlines. This identification system allows animals which are DNA/RFID identified through the WLIC County and State Fair program to meet WI State Fair Identification requirements as long as the process is completed by the deadline postmark.

Postmark Deadlines:

- Beef February 9, 2015
- Sheep May 11, 2015
- Swine May 11, 2015

How do you get your animals identified? Request DNA/RFID tag identification by going to the WLIC website at [www.wiid.org/county-fair-dna-id-project](http://www.wiid.org/county-fair-dna-id-project).

Print out, complete and mail the request with payment to WLIC. Questions related to the DNA/RFID identification process contact: WLIC at [helpdesk@wiid.org](mailto:helpdesk@wiid.org) or 888-808-1910. Questions related to WI State Fair or entry procedures contact: [entryoffice@wistatefair.com](mailto:entryoffice@wistatefair.com) or 414-266-7000.

## **ALL LIVESTOCK & DAIRY EXHIBITORS:**

Please remember: State Fair requires for all Junior Fair entries, the signature of an FFA advisor, (if the youth is an FFA member) or the advisor of the appropriate organization to verify the affiliation of the youth to the respective organization for participation at the Fair.

**Youth Organization Membership:** Youth must be an active/participating member in good standing of a bona fide, adult-supervised Wisconsin youth organization by March 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year. Eligible organizations must abide by all Wisconsin State Fair Junior organization guidelines. Rules for acceptance and participation are the same for everyone without regard to race, color, handicap or origin. Youth may only enter and exhibit in areas related to the mission of their approved youth organization. Example: Beef breed association youth organization members are only eligible to show in the junior beef show. The one exception to this rule is a member of a youth dairy breed association is allowed to show a market dairy steer in the junior beef show.

Beef, Sheep & Swine Interest Forms due February 1. Send in the State Fair Interest Form located at the end of the Communicator to the UWEX Office.

Dairy Interest Forms due March 1. Send in the State Fair Interest Form at the end of this newsletter to the UWEX Office.

**ALL LIVESTOCK EXHIBITORS:** Please remember, State Fair requires for all Junior Fair entries, the signature of an FFA advisor, (if the youth is an FFA member) or the advisor of the appropriate organization to verify the affiliation of the youth to the respective organization for participation at the Fair.

For more State Fair information please visit:

<http://fyi.uwex.edu/youthlivestock/programs/state-fair>,  
<http://fyi.uwex.edu/youthlivestock>,  
<http://wistatefair.com/competitions/junior-livestock> and  
<http://fyi.uwex.edu/dairyyouth>.

## WI State Fair Junior Dairy Show Updates

It's time to start thinking about the 2015 Wisconsin State Fair Junior Dairy Show. We will provide you with information as it comes to us. In the meantime if you are interested in showing at the 2015 State Fair or have any questions, please contact Randy Peterson at 715-698-2299 ([mistymeadowsfarm@hotmail.com](mailto:mistymeadowsfarm@hotmail.com)) or Todd Doornink at [todd@jondefarm.com](mailto:todd@jondefarm.com)

**Dairy Quiz Bowl**  
**Saturday, February 7**  
**Portage, WI**  
**Registration at 9:45am**

This year the contest will be moving back to the John Muir Elementary School due to a scheduling conflict with ACT testing which will be taking place that same day at the high school.

Competition in the 4-H Dairy Bowl and Dairy Management Contests encourages a 4-H member to develop a more complete knowledge of dairy animals and related subjects. These contests provides an educational dairy program for all dairy project members, including those who may not own or show a dairy project animal, and provides a way to develop alertness and self-confidence.

The Dairy Bowl is a "quiz bowl" competition where all questions deal with dairy topics. Teams of four members compete with each other in giving oral answers to questions posed by a moderator. Teams receive points for correct answers and may lose points for incorrect answers. The team with the highest final score is the winner.

In the Dairy Management Contest, teams work both as individuals and together to answer questions related to the management of a dairy farm and dairy cattle. Team members work through various stations and at the end of the event, the total score for the team is added together to determine the final team score.

Both of these contests offer the opportunity for youth to test and showcase their knowledge of dairy cattle science and the dairy industry. For more information contact the Extension office or

<http://fyi.uwex.edu/dairyyouth> for rules and registration form.

**Youth Horse Committee**  
**January 5, 7 pm**  
**February 2, 7 pm**  
**Ag Services & Education Center**

All meetings are open to anyone who has in interest in the horse program. If you have items for the agenda, please contact Bridget Lentz at (651) 303-4682 with agenda items. If you have any ideas for fundraising ideas or can help with the fundraising efforts, please contact Karla Gilbertson at [fixyourhair@hotmail.com](mailto:fixyourhair@hotmail.com).

"Friend us" on Facebook! "St. Croix County 4-H Youth Horse Project"

Reminder parents if you want to chaperone an event to stay on the fairgrounds over night or be a clinician you MUST attend the New Volunteer Orientation that the County offers.

## Horse Events Save the Dates

March 14; 10am-12pm – Mandatory Kick Off Meeting  
March 23; 7-9pm – Mandatory Kick-off Meeting  
Meetings will be held at the Roberts Park Building

June 6 - Day Horse Camp for Horseless Horse and Novice

TBD—Horse Camp



All of the horse camps are held at the St. Croix County Fairground in Glenwood City.

***St. Croix County Fair***

## County Fair Premium Checks

2014 County Fair Premium checks were included in the club awards packets. Checks were distributed to families through their clubs. The fair premium checks are **void on January 1**. Questions can be directed to Cindy Van Dyk at 715- 246-5486.

## **Annual Fairboard Meeting followed by Fairboard Business Meeting**

**January 8; 7:30pm  
Ag Services & Education Center**

Everyone is welcome to attend. Agenda items include: Two Year Fairbook themes, financial update and Director Elections.

Fairboard meetings are held the second Thursday of each month at 7:30pm. January – April meetings are held at the Ag Services & Education Center in Baldwin. May – October meetings are held at the Fairgrounds.

### **Recycled Ribbon Program**

Have you ever thought what to do with all your St. Croix County Fair Ribbons? How about recycling them? If you happen to have old ribbons, instead of throwing them away, we would love them to reuse. They need to be in good condition and not have any writing on the tag. Please drop them off at the Extension Office or give them to your club leader. We will accept Jr. Fair and Open Class ribbons. If you aren't interested in keeping all your ribbons, please consider donating them back to the fair. As budgets continue to tighten, every little bit helps.



***Fairplex***

**Friends of the St. Croix County  
Fairgrounds**

Welcome to 2015! Our ambitious 2015 stretch goal and top priority is to raise the funds to retire the loan on Dairy Barn #2 - "lets burn the note" at this year's Dairy Show! Simultaneously we will be continuing the partnership with the Horse Committee to launch construction of the 1st Horse Barn. To move ahead on Horse Barn #1 we need to complete funding Dairy Barn #2 and raise approximately 50% of the funds necessary for the Horse Barn. While these are big

challenges, we can meet them by continuing our great tradition of working together for the benefit of all.

During the month of January we will be completing our plans for the 2015 May Fair Event & Sale and the Renovations for Generations Raffle. Got suggestions, new ideas or want to participate, please contact Chris Libbey at (715) 246-5626.

Ways you can help

- Commodity Drive – Corn/beans/cull cows or scrap
- Employee volunteer matches – Currently set up with Allina Health & 3M. Check with your employers for their matching programs.
- United Way – Direct your 2015 donation to Friends of the St. Croix County Fairgrounds
- Collect Family Fresh Grocery slips - turn into your General Leader
- Take advantage of Hackman Town & Country's 5% match - be sure to request the match, proceeds go to the Horse Complex
- Support the 2015 May Fair Event & Sale and the Renovations for Generations Raffle fund raising events

Breaking News: Thanks to nomination by Denny Mitchell, we will again be receiving the Monsanto America's Farmers Grow Communities award. This is a \$2500 dollar award and it will be the third time we have received it!







## 2015 4-H Events Calendar

Refer to the 4-H Communicator for times and locations

Please note that all dates are tentative and subject to change!

January		March 14	Horse Kick Off Meeting
1	New Year's Day – Office Closed	15	Communicator Articles Due
5	Horse Committee Meeting	20-21	ArtBeat South
8	Fairboard Meeting	21	Clover College
11	Livestock Rules Meeting	22	Ambassadors (Ag Center)
13	Livestock Committee Meeting	22	Llama Kick Off Pot Luck (Marbil Llamas)
13	Livestock Rules Meeting	22	Meat Animal Quality Assurance
13	Cloverbud Leader Training	23	Horse Kick Off Meeting
15	Communicator Articles Due	23	Shooting Sports Orientation
19	Martin Luther King Day – Office Closed	TBD	Ultrasound Clinic
20	Leader's Council Meeting	<b>April</b>	
25	Ambassador Leadership Weekend	4	Goat, Sheep, Swine Weigh-In
30-31	Art Lab	6	Horse Committee Meeting
31	Show Choir Applications Due	11	S.T.E.A.M
31	Shepherd's Clinic & Trade Show	11-16	National 4-H Conference – Washington D.C.
TBD	Ag Truths not Tails Conference	14	Livestock Committee Meeting
<b>February</b>		15	Communicator Articles Due
1	4-H Youth Conference Apps. Due	16-20	Space Camp – Alabama
1	Pig Project Scholarship Apps. Due	19	Shooting Sports Training Session
1	Camp Counselor Apps. Due	21	Leader's Council Meeting
2	Horse Committee Meeting	TBD	Dog Project Informational Meeting
6-8	Hudson Hot Air Affair	TBD	Dairy Judging
7	Dairy Quiz Bowl	TBD	Cat Fun Show
9	Beef WI State Fair DNA/Rfid Due	<b>May</b>	
10	Livestock Committee Meeting	4	Horse Committee Meeting
14	4-H Meats Judging Contest	7	Dog Training Meeting
15	Communicator Articles Due	7	Softball Coaches Meeting
16	President's Day – Office Closed	9	Mayfair Fundraiser
17	State Youth Conference Interviews	10	Shooting Sports Training Session
17	Leader's Council Meeting	12	Livestock Committee Meeting
20	ArtBeat South Apps. Due	14	Dog Training Meeting
21-22	Mini Talent Explosion (Dramas & Music-21; Speeches & Demos-22)	15	Communicator Articles Due
22	Ambassador Meeting (Ag Center)	19	Leader's Council Meeting
27	Show Choir parent meeting	21	Dog Training Meeting
TBD	Dairy Committee Meeting	25	Memorial Day – Office Closed
<b>March</b>		28	Dog Training Meeting
1	Livestock Pancake Breakfast	29-30	4-H Camp Counselor Training
1	Key Award Applications Due	<b>June</b>	
1	County Scholarship Apps. Due	1	Horse Committee Meeting
2	Horse Committee Meeting	4	Dog Training Meeting
7	Livestock Quiz Bowl	6	Day Horse Camp
10	Livestock Committee Meeting	7	Shooting Sports Training Session

<b>June - Continued</b>		Sept. 15	Leader's Council Meeting
9	Livestock Committee Meeting	15	Communicator Articles Due
11	Dog Training Session	TBD	Ambassadors
13	Foods Fair: Food Revue & Cake Decorating	TBD	National 4-H Dairy Conference – Madison
15	Fair Entries Due	TBD	Leader's Banquet
15	Communicator Articles Due	<b>October</b>	
15-17	4-H Day Camp (Younger grades 3-5)	4-10	National 4-H Week
16	Leader's Council Meeting	5	Horse Committee Meeting
17-19	4-H Camp (Older grades 5-7)	13	Livestock Committee Meeting
18	Dog Training Meeting	15	Communicator Articles Due
19-20	Rodeo	20	Leader's Council Meeting
21	Shooting Sports Training Session	TBD	Ambassadors
22-25 or 23-26	WI 4-H & Youth Conference – Madison	<b>November</b>	
25	Dog Training Meeting	2	Horse Committee Meeting
25	Area Animal Science Days	10	Livestock Committee Meeting
TBD	Citizen Washington Focus	15	Communicator Articles Due
TBD	Clothing Revue	15	Enrollment Entry Due
TBD	Horse Camp	17	Leader's Council Meeting
<b>July</b>		26	Thanksgiving – Office Closed
2	Dog Training Meeting	27	Day after Thanksgiving – Office Closed
3	Independence Day Observation – Office Closed	27-2	National 4-H Congress - Atlanta
6	Horse Committee Meeting	<b>December</b>	
8	Fair Clean Up	5	Beef Weigh-In
8-9	Show Choir Day Camp (tentative)	7	Horse Committee Meeting
9	Dog Training Meeting	8	Livestock Committee Meeting
11	Foods Fair (Foods only)	12	Beef Weigh-In (Snow Date)
13	Competitive Shoot	15	Communicator Articles Due
14	Livestock Committee Meeting	24	Christmas Eve – Office Closed
15	Communicator Articles Due	25	Christmas Day – Office Closed
15-19	St. Croix County Fair		
28-30	Cloverbud/Explorer Day Camps		
30-Aug 9	Wisconsin State Fair		
TBD	4-H All Star Game		
TBD	Cat Show		
TBD	4-H Softball Tournament		
TBD	Citizen Washington Focus		
<b>August</b>			
July 30-9	Wisconsin State Fair		
3	Horse Committee Meeting		
11	Livestock Committee Meeting		
15	Communicator Articles Due		
18	Leader's Council Meeting		
TBD	Ambassadors		
TBD	District Gymkhana Show		
<b>September</b>			
7	Horse Committee Meeting		
7	Labor Day – Office Closed		
8	Livestock Committee Meeting		

### 4-H Interest Form / Sign Up Sheet

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Please Send a Camp Counselor Application

\_\_\_\_\_ Please Send a St. Croix County 4-H Scholarship Application

\_\_\_\_\_ Please Send a ME Form and Cover Letter for Key Award

#### State Fair DAIRY Interest Form

**Due March 1**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ 4-H Club \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Have you attended the State Fair as a dairy exhibitor before? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

#### State fair LIVESTOCK Interest Form

**Due February 1**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ 4-H Club \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the species you are interested in exhibiting: \_\_\_\_\_ Swine \_\_\_\_\_ Sheep \_\_\_\_\_ Beef

Have you attended the State Fair as a livestock exhibitor before? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

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

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the St. Croix County UW-Extension Office.

Requests for reasonable accommodations for disabilities or limitations should be made prior to the date of the program or activity for which it is needed. Please do so as early as possible prior to the program or activity so that proper arrangements can be made. Requests are kept confidential.

**Mail Completed Form to:** UW-Extension, 1960 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. Suite 140, Baldwin, WI 54002

# January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 7:30pm – Fairboard Meeting (Ag Center)	9	10
11 1pm – Mandatory Livestock Rules Mtg. (Ag Center)	12	13 2pm & 6:30pm Cloverbud Leader Training 6:30pm – Mandatory Livestock Rules Mtg. (Ag Center) 7:30pm – Livestock Committee Mtg. (Ag Center)	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 7pm – 4-H Online Report Training followed by Leader's Council Mtg. (Ag Center)	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 Due – Show Choir Applications 8am – Shepherd's Clinic & Trade Show (Rice Lake) Art Lab – WI Dells



# February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>1</i> Art Lab – WI Dells <b>Due</b> – Youth Conference Applications <b>Due</b> – Pig Project Scholarship Applications	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i> <b>9:45am</b> – Dairy Quiz Bowl (Portage)
<i>8</i> <b>Due</b> – Meats Judging Registration	<i>9</i> <b>Due</b> – Beef WI State Fair DNA/RFID	<i>10</i> <b>7:30pm</b> – Livestock Committee Mtg. (Ag Center)	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>14</i> <b>12:30pm</b> – Meats Judging Contest - Madison
						
<i>15</i>	<i>16</i> <b>Due</b> – Communicator Articles	<i>17</i> <b>7pm</b> – Leader's Council Mtg. (Ag Center)	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i> <b>Due</b> – ArtBeat South Applications	<i>21</i> Mini Talent Explosion (Drama & Music)
<i>22</i> Mini Talent Explosion (Speeches & Demos)	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i>