



St. Croix County 4-H Communicator

January / February 2016

www.uwex.edu/ces/cty/stcroix/4h/

(715) 531-1930

www.stcroixcounty4-h.org

Greetings St. Croix 4-H Families,

With the arrival of the New Year, I want to wish each and every one of you a fantastic time with loved ones and friends during this holiday season! It is at times like this that I am reminded about the many “gifts” we all have been given in our lives and I think 4-H is truly one of those gifts. 4-H through its non-formal educational opportunities helps young people gain skills and grow into healthy productive citizens and leaders of tomorrow. This is a gift that I wish all young people had in their lives. All of this speaks to why 4-H programs are open to all youth regardless of race, color, sex, creed, disability, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, sexual orientation, pregnancy, marital or parental status as well as socioeconomic backgrounds.

As 4-H clubs, we need to work to assure that our meetings are assessable and open to anyone. Things to think about as a club along this line would be:

- Does the date and time of our club meeting prohibit others from participating?
- Is the location of our meetings assessable to everyone?
- Would the location of our meetings make anyone feel uncomfortable?
- How do we “invite” and “welcome” new members and families into our club?
- How can we work as a club to create an environment where others feel part of the group?

Thank you all who have re-enrolled in 4HOnline! Most of you have had little trouble and the few things that have arisen have had minor fixes. Just a reminder to all of you who have not re-enrolled yet please do so immediately so you can begin to receive newsletters and correspondence from the UW-Extension Office. As always, if you have questions please just give our office a call and we will do our best to work through them.

Lastly, my holiday wish for you would be the gift of time to enjoy your family and the people in your life. Best wishes for a great holiday season and a healthy and productive 2016!

Heather Vierling

Heather Vierling
St. Croix County 4-H Youth Development Agent



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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> once available.

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.

Come Help Support the Horse Barn!

Meat Raffle

Village Inn - North Hudson WI

Feb 20th, 2016

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Come support the horse project in their efforts to build their first horse barn at the fair. All proceeds go toward the horse barn. For more information contact: Connie Shaffer at 715-220-3449 or Bridget Lentz at 651-303-4682.

Pancake Breakfast

March 13; 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!

If you have any questions, please go to the website at www.stcroixbreedingstock.com or call Warren or Lori DeBoer at 715-263-4201. Stay tuned for pricing.

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 13.

Communicator Reminders

Communicator Available On-Line

The 4-H Communicator continues to be online after fall enrollment is entered into the 4-HOnline Program, <https://4honline.com> (Connect tab then Newsletters). The Communicator is also available at the UW-Extension Website, <http://stcroix.uwex.edu> (4-H Youth Development, 4-H Newsletters). The link to the Communicator is also available on our Facebook Page, www.facebook.com/ChrisClover. 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 15th 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 2015-2016 policy has been posted on the web site (<http://stcroix.uwex.edu/4-h-youth-development/leaders-council>). If you would like a hard copy please contact the UWEX Office.

4-H Website

UW-Extension's website can be located at: 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 Heath at 715-531-1930 or melissa.heath@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 19, 7:00 pm

Feb 16, 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 DaNell Jamieson. The agendas and minutes are posted on the St. Croix County UW-Extension 4-H Web Site under Leaders' Council.

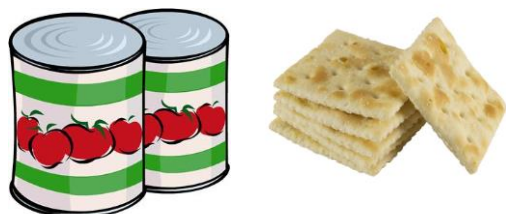
You can attend meetings by using the audio conference. Just dial the following number: 1-866-244-1377 US Toll Free and then enter the following password: 5863291#.

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 2016 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.



Food Shelves seek Crock Pots

We have just celebrated the wonderful time of year that encourages us to reach out and share our good fortune with others. The local food shelves are busy helping our families put food on their tables. They have introduced a new idea to the families of St. Croix Valley. They are providing families with crock pots and recipes/instructions on how to use them. Then, families will get crock pot ready meals to use. How can we help? They are looking for donations of crock pots. Would your club be willing to donate a crock pot (new) to this great program? Please contact Lori DeBoer at lordeb651@gmail.com or call her at 715-491-0221 if you have any questions or to contribute to the cause!

Help keep Mailing List Up-to-Date

If you have a change of address or if you are receiving our newsletter and would like to be taken off our mailing list or prefer to view it online, please update your profile on 4HOnline.com.

Youth News/ Opportunities

NEW***Clover Cooking*****New**

Saturday, January 9

9:00am-2:00pm

New Richmond Commons

421 South Green (or 421 South Arch)

All members regardless of age are invited for the day to this new event. Learn a variety of cooking methods and other food related topics.

We'll make lefsa, chili, truffles, and banana bread. We'll be covering topics such as: Do we boil that? Oh sugar! Fruits and Vegetables. We will also cover table setting, explain what the foods review is and give some tips.

The cost to attend is \$10, which includes lunch. Please register by January 5 so there are enough supplies. Bring containers with you to take the food you make home.

4-H Showchoir (Velocity)

Applications Due: January 31, 2016

Any 4-H member in 6-13th grades is welcome to apply to the 4-H Showchoir, VELOCITY. There is no audition, only a willingness to learn music to sing and have fun moving while singing. Applications can be gotten either from the St. Croix county web site at <http://stcroix.uwex.edu>, the showchoir web site at <https://scc4hshowchoir.shutterfly.com> or e-mailing the director, Nancy Burman, at music_mommy@hotmail.com. Application deadline is January 31, 2016. There is a \$100 fee to be in the choir, plus members will need to purchase dance shoes, and some clothing items.

We are in the process of setting up the rehearsal and performance schedule. Please contact Nancy if you have any questions regarding rehearsal and performance dates. There is a list of tentative dates and all registration forms on the Showchoir web site at <https://scc4hshowchoir.shutterfly.com>.

The Choir is open to boys and girls from all 4-H clubs and any county. 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 4-H Showchoir, VELOCITY 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 could use a bass guitar & electric guitar player in the 2016 shows and performances. If you are interested in performing with the choir, please contact director, Nancy Burman at music_mommy@hotmail.com

Youth and Adult Leader Trainings

Educational workshops will be offered throughout the winter months. This is a great opportunity to learn something new, network with others, and problem solve. Both youth and adult leaders are welcome to participate. All workshops start at 7:00pm and will last approximately 1 hour. Please RSVP for each workshop in advance.

January 14

Parliamentary Procedure
Training

February 29

March 17

April 14

Fundraising 101

St. Croix County Annual

4-H Expansion & Review

Service Learning Projects

St. Croix County Speaking Contest

February 3, 2016; 6:00pm

Entries Due: February 1

Looking for a way to use your Mini Talent Explosion speech again? Consider using it for the St. Croix County Conservation Speaking Contest. The contest is open to youth in grades 5-12 who reside in or whose school district is in St. Croix County. Speeches must promote the conservation of natural resources and the protection or enhancement of environmental quality.

Winners of the county contest receive a monetary reward and have chances to move on to the Area and State contests.

For contest guidelines, registration and more information contact Aleisha Miller, St. Croix County Environmental Educator. Aleisha.miller@co.saint-croix.wi.us or (715) 531-1915

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

M.E. Forms Due February 1st

ATTENTION 4-H members grades 7-10!! Don't miss a GREAT opportunity to travel to Madison for the 2016 Wisconsin 4-H & Youth Conference, June 20-23. 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.

Mini Talent Explosion

February 13, 2016

New Richmond Commons

421 South Green (or 421 South Arch)

Music and Drama will perform in the morning
Demonstrations, Illustrated Talks, Speaking, and Interpretive Readings will perform in the afternoon

If you are not familiar with the Mini Talent Explosion, it features club events in Drama and Music and individual events in Demonstration, Speaking, and Reading. 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 and will be available on the St. Croix UWEX.edu website.

Onstage Drama: Includes 2 or more actors and can be up to 30 minutes in length. The top onstage drama is eligible to go to the State Fair.

Mini Drama/Skits: Includes 2 or more actors, are simple dramas that can be performed anywhere and are no more than 15 minutes. The top mini drama/skit is eligible to go to the State Fair.

Music: Includes 5 or more members, can include vocal, instrumental, and dance. The top music performance is eligible to go to the State Fair. Should be no more than 15 minutes in length.

Original Speech: Must be developed by the member who is presenting it. There are 5 age categories.

Cloverbuds--recite the 4-H Pledge as a club group. If your club only has 1 Cloverbud who would like to participate, we can add them in with another club.

Novice (grades 3-4)--1-2 minute speeches

Junior (grades 5-6)--2-3 minute speeches

Intermediate (grades 7-8)--3-4 minute speeches

Senior (grades 9-13)--4-5 minute speeches

Interpretive Reading: Participants select a favorite poem, prose, or part of a story and "read" it aloud for the audience. Memorization is not required. There are two categories for interpretive reading, individual and dynamic duo, which is a team of 2 members. There are 4 age divisions for each category.

Novice (grades 3-4)--1-2 minute reading

Junior (grades 5-6)--2-3 minute reading

Intermediate (grades 7-8)--3-4 minute reading

Senior (grades 9-13)--4-5 minute reading

*****New***Illustrated Talk:** An illustrated talk is another means of sharing information and educating an audience about a specific subject. It is an oral presentation in which the member uses posters/illustrations or objects to emphasize/illustrate specific points in the speech. A member does not actually make or demonstrate how to do something in an illustrated talk. This is a fair entry, so regular fair ribbons are used and premiums are earned, intermediate and seniors could be chosen to go to the State Fair. If you enter an illustrated talk, remember to sign up for demonstrations & communications on your fair enrollment in May. There are two categories for illustrated talks individual and team (2 members). There are 3 age divisions for each category.

Junior (grades 3-5)--4-7 minute talk

Intermediate (grades 6-8)--5-8 minute talk

Senior (grades 9-13)--8-10 minute talk

Demonstrations: Members show the audience how to make or do something, like how to make ants on a log or sew on a button. This is a fair entry, so regular fair ribbons are used and premiums are earned, intermediate and seniors could be chosen to go to the

State Fair. If you enter in the demonstration contest, remember to sign up for demonstrations & communications on your fair enrollment in May. There are two categories for demonstrations individual and team (2 members). There are 3 age divisions for each category.

Junior (grades 3-5)--4-7 minute demonstration
Intermediate (grades 6-8)--5-8 minute demonstration
Senior (grades 9-13)--8-10 minute demonstration

Key Award for 4-H Leadership ME forms due February 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.

State Fair Dairy Promotion Board Scholarships Available

The Wisconsin State Fair Dairy Promotion Board is offering \$1,000 scholarships, for use during the second semester of the 2016-17 school year, to third and fourth-year college students pursuing dairy-related or food science degrees at one of Wisconsin's four-year universities. Additional \$1,000 scholarships will be made available to high school seniors planning to pursue a dairy-related or food science degree at one of Wisconsin's four-year universities or students studying in a two-year, technical school program related to dairy or food science.

Applicants will be evaluated on involvement and leadership in dairy-related activities, scholastic achievement, and career objectives. Finalists will be interviewed in mid-April, with the recipients to be recognized at the 2016 Wisconsin State Fair.

The application is available at <http://wistatefair.com/competitions/dairy-promo-board/>.

Application deadline is Friday, March 25. For more information, contact Katy Katzman at 262-903-6727 or katzman@idcnet.com.

Naturespace

Shooting Sports Orientation Registration

Monday, March 23; 7pm

Tuesday, April 7; 7pm

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 or 715-688-6779 or Dave Smith at Lomac@baldwin-telecom.net or 715-684-2966 or 715-338-2637.

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/whpwi4h/> 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://4h.uwex.edu/events/4-h-art-groups-application>. Applications must be submitted no later than January 28, 2016. If you have any questions, please contact Christina Rencontre at: Christina.rencontre@ces.uwex.edu or 608-262-1536.



Art Lab

January 29-31

Upham Woods, WI Dells

Registration Deadline: January 8

4-H Art Lab provides an in-depth and focused experience in art for adults and youth in grades 9-12. Each participant chooses one art track for the entire weekend and works on a single project. Art tracks are led by artists from across the state of Wisconsin representing a range of art forms. The registration fee is \$80 this year, to apply fill out the forms at: <http://fyi.uwex.edu/wi4harts/art-lab-forms>.

For more information, contact Christina Rencontre at: christina.rencontre@ces.uwex.edu or 608-262-1536.

4-H ArtBeat

March 18-19

Upham Woods, WI Dells

Registration Due: February 19

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! The weekend will feature a look at a variety of arts projects including music, drama, visual arts, arts and crafts, juggling and more! Also the weekend will feature some surprise performances created just for this year's ArtBeat!

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. Both youth and adult participants stay in the cabins on cabin hill. Camp begins Friday evening at 7 pm and ends Saturday afternoon at 3 pm.

The fee is \$50 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? For more information, contact Christina Rencontre at

Christina.rencontre@ces.uwex.edu or 608-262-1536 or the website at: <http://4h.uwex.edu/events/4-h-art-beat>.

Photography Project Meetings

The year 2016 is now upon us and I am hoping that you all had a very Merry Christmas, Happy Holiday and your New Year is off to a good start!

We will be having two meetings this year again and everyone is welcome to come to these meetings. They are mostly set up to help the 1st and 2nd year photography members but there is always information for everyone and it is good to learn from one another. I highly recommend the meeting for the new beginners! We will be having speakers again and I will post the first meeting date on the Facebook page and in the weekly reminder email. I am thinking that our first meeting will be one of the first Saturday's in the month of March.

The Alternative Project was originally set up for those that could not attend a meeting due to other obligations. The **judges strongly emphasized** (recommended) that the photography members that have been in the project for 3 or more years should be reaching out to learn more through other means. This could be shadowing a photographer, taking a photography class through community ed or other place, helping with the year book, doing the Leadership Project and helping younger club members with their photography (that would be two projects in one), taking a field trip with other photography members and taking pictures and then getting together to go over them (my farm is always available for this and I would love to help!), and other ideas too! I have updated the Alternative Project Form and right now it is on the Facebook page. Please make sure you are using the 2016 form. Please do something different then you did last year. For example if you had a photographer come in to your club and speak this year try and get out there and shadow a different photographer or do some online reading and send me a report of your findings!

Here is a great Alternative Project that a couple of you could do! On January 9th there is going to be a "Cooking Event" at the New Richmond Commons. They are looking for two 4-H members to go and take pictures of the event! Please let me know if you are interested in this! A great project to do! I would still love to have a photography committee so that we can make some decisions together! This

would be great for anyone wanting to do a Leadership Project! Let me know if you are interested As Soon As Possible. ****As of this newsletter I still have not heard from anyone that would like to help! I am looking to have a January meeting to set some things up!! Parents and/or members are welcome!

Have a great day,
Kay Jacobsen ~ County Photography Project Leader

Our email is sccphotographyproject@gmail.com and Facebook page is SCCPHOTOGRAPHYPROJECT (request to join and you will be accepted!).

Animal Sciences

Livestock Committee Meeting

January 12, 7:30 pm

February 9, 7:30 pm

Ag Service & Education Center, Baldwin

All of the Livestock 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 to get items on the agenda no later than 10 days prior to the meeting.

Meat Animal/Breeding Stock/ Dairy Goat Members Rules Meeting (MANDATORY!)

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.

The dates and times are as follows:

January 10 at 1:00 pm and January 12 at 6:30 pm

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 Meat Animal Committee or email stcroixlivestock@yahoo.com.

Meat Animal Quality Assurance Clinic (MAQA)

**Sunday, March 13
Baldwin American Legion**

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.

Heritage Dairy Heifer Calf

The St. Croix County 4-H Dairy Committee is sponsoring a Registered Dairy Calf Award to one outstanding 4-H member. Interested members are asked to write a short essay (100 words or less) on "What would owning your own registered dairy calf mean to your 4-H experience?" Applicants are also asked to list their involvement in 4-H and dairy project activities.

Applications are due to the UW-Extension office by March 1st, and applicants may be asked back for an interview with the selection committee. The goal of the committee is to have the winner selected by May 1st. The dairy committee will pay registration transfer fees. *Previous winners are not eligible. Decisions of the judges are final.*

Application is open to 4-H members of all ages. This is an excellent opportunity to add a registered dairy calf to your 4-H project experience. Be sure to thank your 4-H Dairy Committee members for making this possible!

Managerial Dairy Project Calves Available

Are you interested in showing a dairy calf at the fair but don't live on a dairy farm? Maybe you live on a farm, but are interested in a different breed or a registered calf? The St. Croix County 4-H program offers a managerial project just for you. There are several dairy farms in St. Croix County that are willing to let 4-H kids work with animals at their farm to give you the opportunity to show them at the fair.

What's expected of the project member?

- Each owner has the right to set their own expectations of the exhibitor.
- Project animals need to be selected and a managerial agreement formed with the owner by June 1st.
- Work with the project animal at least once a week through the month of June. This may include training your calf to lead, washing it, etc.
- As the fair draws closer, the exhibitor will need to work more frequently with their project animal, at least 3-4 times per week.
- Preference may be given to project members that show an interest in learning more about a dairy farm. How the cows are milked, fed, and cared for throughout the year.

Dairy farmers that have expressed an interest in allowing youth to take managerial project calves include:

- Todd Doornink (Baldwin) 715-760-0216
- Terry Mitchel (New Richmond) 715-246-5502
- Dave Cowles (Roberts) 715-749-3438
- Gerrit Van Dyk (New Richmond) 715-246-5492
- Chuck Kruschke (New Richmond) 715-808-2559
- Dan Luckwaldt (Woodville) 715-698-3240
- Zwald Family (Hammond) 715-796-5510
- Brad & Tina Midtling (Woodville) *Must have interest in the farm besides showing*

Dairy Goat Clinic January 2; 9:30 am

The dairy goat project will be holding its first clinic at the Kennett residence (located at 296 County Rd BB, Baldwin). This clinic will be a goat dissection, so members can gain a very good understanding of the inner workings of their goats. This clinic will be conducted by Tia Sampair, DVM, vet who did our clinic last year. Please rsvp to: kennettfamily@baldwin-telecom.net if you are attending.

Also ... There will be a goat nutrition clinic coming up in February hosted by Valley Feeds in Menomonie. Date yet to be determined.



4-H Meats Judging Contest
February 20, 12:30pm
Registration Deadline: February 12
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 teams traveling to Kansas City, MO and Denver, CO for national competition. There is a Junior Division as well at the state level.

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 or 608-263-4304.

Livestock Quiz Bowl
March 5, 2016 (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.

**Wisconsin Pork Association Offers
Youth Pig Project Scholarships**
Application Due: February 1

Each spring, Wisconsin Pork Association offers youth pig project scholarships to assist youth with their 4-H or FFA pig projects. The program encourages youth to become involved in the Wisconsin pork industry, provides opportunities to develop life skills, and exposes youth to the many career paths available within the industry.

Wisconsin 4-H and FFA youth ages 9 to 19 are eligible to apply for the scholarship. In 2016, at least 10 scholarships will be awarded.

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://www.wppa.org/youth-pig-project>.

Shepherd's Clinic and Trade Show
February 6, 2016
WITC Conference Center; Rice Lake

"Finding the Profit in Your Flock" is the theme of the 2016 Indianhead Sheep Breeders Association annual Shepherds' Clinic. The 2016 Shepherds' Clinic will be held Saturday, February 6th at the newly remodeled conference center of the Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College in Rice Lake, Wisconsin. We are privileged to have Burton Pfliger, President of the American Sheep Industry as the Keynote Speaker at the 2016 ISBA Shepherds' Clinic.

Other presenters at the 2016 Shepherds' Clinic will be:

- Alan Culham, Project Coordinator with ASI's "Grow Our Flock" program.

- Cindy Wolf, DVM assistant professor of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Minnesota
- Deb Jones, owner of The Fiber Garden will lead a hands on wool craft activity.
- Dan Undersander, University of Wisconsin forage specialist will address forage production for sheep
- Dave Thomas, University of Wisconsin sheep specialist

The Youth Clinic of the Shepherds' Clinic is one of the most popular parts of the program every year. The 2016 Youth Clinic will be led by Bernie O'Rourke the Extension Youth Livestock Specialist at the University of Wisconsin Extension along with students from the Animal Science program at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls.

This is just a portion of the program planned for the 2016 ISBA Shepherds' Clinic. More details, along with registration information, will be available at the ISBA website and the ISBA newsletter in future months. Additional information is available on-line at www.indianheadsheep.com or by contacting Tim Jergenson at 715-537-6250

WI State Fair Junior Dairy Show Updates

It's time to start thinking about the 2016 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 2016 State Fair or have any questions, please contact Randy Peterson at 715-698-2299 (mistymeadowsfarm@hotmail.com) or Todd Doornink at todd@jondefarm.com

Dairy Quiz Bowl Saturday, January 30

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 4, 7 pm

February 1, 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. Committee meetings are the first Monday of each month, 7 p.m. at the Ag Service Building/4-H Extension building.

Are you on Facebook? Friend us on Facebook at "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.

Save the Dates: 4-H Day Horse Camp will be held June 4 and Horse Camp is tentatively scheduled for June 24-26.

Webinar: So you Want to Start a Knowledge Team?

(**Madison:**) UW Extension and the UW Madison Animal Sciences Department will be hosting a webinar entitled, "So you Want to Start a Knowledge Team" on Thursday, January 14 from 7-8 PM. This

program is to engage volunteers, leaders and Extension staff on how to start and coach knowledge based team opportunities offered in through 4-H and FFA programs.

Examples of these educational events in the livestock area are: Quiz bowl, Skillathon, Meats Judging and Livestock Judging. This webinar/wisline will enable participants to be more knowledgeable about resources available, logistics of getting a team started and how to become successful in the process. You can participate in this webinar from your home using a computer and your phone. Contact your local extension office if they plan to host this webinar in their office.

To participate, please register at this website no later than 2 days (by Jan. 12th) prior to each session:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1csM3kl3vUbNj12AV_GvJwNzct1KPjp84y8e2KwwGBaA/viewform?usp=send_form

We ask that participants register no later than 2 days prior to the session, so there is time for connecting information to be sent. An email address is also required to receive materials and connecting information. There are a limited number of lines available so please register early.

If you have any questions please contact Bernie O'Rourke, Extension Youth Livestock Specialist at borourke2@ansci.wisc.edu.

Webinar programs are provided as a service of the UW Cooperative Extension and the UW-Madison Department of Animal Sciences, and are hosted by Bernie O'Rourke, Extension Youth Livestock Specialist. The webinar system provides a two-way voice & visual communication between speakers and listeners and are free to the public.

More information for this program can be found at: <http://fyi.uwex.edu/youthlivestock/programs/so-you-want-to-start-a-knowledge-team/>

More information about the Wisconsin Youth Livestock Program can be found at: <http://fyi.uwex.edu/youthlivestock>.



Livestock Learning Webinar Series

(Madison:) UW Extension and the UW Madison Animal Sciences Department will again be hosting a “Livestock Learning Webinar Series” starting in January 2016. This series is best suited for older youth to gain animal project & issue based information. Attendees will gain ideas about project based leadership and career goals with the species of Beef, Sheep, Swine and Meat Goats in mind. All families are encouraged and invited to attend. You can participate in these webinars from your home using a computer and your phone or at your local extension office, if your local Extension office plans to host. Sessions are scheduled to run from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM, and the following dates and topics planned are as follows:

- *Jan. 28 (register by Jan. 26) – Beef*
- *Feb. 25 (register by Feb. 23) – Sheep*
- *March 31 (register by March 29) – Swine*
- *April 28 (register by April 26) – Meat Goats*

To participate, please register at this website no later than 2 days prior to each session:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1rL09GIprTnUQ9pGiG9Ghv5_5U3Mdoc2wwd9Yfhmsns4/viewform?usp=send_form

We ask that participants register no later than 2 days prior to each session, so there is time for connecting information to be sent. An email address is also required to receive materials and connecting information. There are a limited number of lines available so please register early.

Continue to visit the site as we confirm speakers. If you have any questions about this series please contact Bernie O'Rourke, Extension Youth Livestock Specialist at borourke2@ansci.wisc.edu.

Webinar programs are provided as a service of the UW Cooperative Extension and the UW-Madison Department of Animal Sciences, and are hosted by Bernie O'Rourke, Extension Youth Livestock Specialist. The webinar system provides a two-way voice & visual communication between speakers and listeners and are free to the public.

More information for this program can be found at: <http://fyi.uwex.edu/youthlivestock/programs/livestock-learning-webinar-series/>

St. Croix County Fair

County Fair Premium Checks

2015 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 14; 7:30pm
Ag Services & Education Center

Everyone is welcome to attend. Agenda items include: 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.

Fairplex

Friends of the St. Croix County Fairgrounds

Welcome to 2016! Our ambitious 2016 stretch goal and top priority is, in partnership with the Horse Project, to raise the funds necessary to launch construction of Horse Barn #1. To move ahead on the Horse Barn, we need to raise approximately 50% of the necessary funds.

Thanks to continued outstanding support, we already have a great start and with considerable luck could be in a position to fund construction in time for the 2016 Fair!! While this is a big challenge, we can meet it 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 2016 May Fair Event & Sale. At the urging of Horse Project representatives, we have started the Renovations for Generations Raffle much earlier this year, in fact some tickets were sold for Christmas Stocking Stuffers. We will be reaching out in January to set up Club visits. If you have 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 2016 donation to Friends of the St. Croix County Fairgrounds
- Take advantage of Beth Murray-Laughnan's 5% match on ADM Alliance Feeds (formerly Mormon Feeds) - be sure to request the match, proceeds go to the Horse Complex (Beth can be reached at (651) 295-4026)
- Support the 2016 May Fair Event & Sale, the Renovations for Generations Raffle and the Horse Project fund raising events



Heritage Dairy Heifer Calf

The St. Croix County 4-H Dairy Committee is sponsoring a Registered Dairy Calf Award to one outstanding 4-H member. Interested members are asked to write a short essay (100 words or less) on "What would owning your own registered dairy calf mean to your 4-H experience?" Applicants are also asked to list their involvement in 4-H and dairy project activities.

Applications are due to the UW-Extension office by March 1st, and applicants may be asked back for an interview with the selection committee. The goal of the committee is to have the winner selected by May 1st. The dairy committee will pay registration transfer fees. *Previous winners are not eligible. Decisions of the judges are final.*

Application is open to 4-H members of all ages. This is an excellent opportunity to add a registered dairy calf to your 4-H project experience. Be sure to thank your 4-H Dairy Committee members for making this possible!

Heritage Dairy Heifer Calf Application (Information to include with essay)

Name _____

Contact info (phone / email) _____

Club _____

Age _____ Year in School _____

The calf will be housed at (indicate farm) _____

Breed preference (all reasonable efforts will be made by the committee to select a calf of the winners breed preference, however breed preference cannot be guaranteed)

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

Member's Signature _____

Parent's Signature _____

Please return your completed form to: UW Extension at 1960 8th Ave., Baldwin, WI 54002

PO-CROIX-BAR-SAW 4-H Camp

Camp Counselor Application

Due: February 1, 2016

(Must currently be in grades 9-12 to apply)

Send completed application to: UW-Extension Office; 1960 8th Ave., Baldwin WI 54002

Name:		Current Age:		Birth Date:		Male:		Female:		
Address:				City:				Zip:		
County:		Club:		Grade in School:			Years in 4-H:			
Phone:		T-Shirt Size		Small		Medium		Large X-Large		
Email:										
Have you previously attended a Camp Counselor Training Workshop?										
If so, when and where?										
Do you want to be considered for a junior director's position?								Yes No		
What skills would you bring to this junior director's position?										
List camps (4-H and non4-H) which you have attended:						Camper or Counselor				
Camp						Year	Camper		Counselor	
Please hold these dates. Counselors will be assigned camps once camper applications and number are in.										
<input type="checkbox"/> Younger Camp		Grades 3-5		June 15-17		Camp Counselor Training May 29-30 (tentative)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Older Camp		Grades 5-7		June 17-19						
Camp Activities										
Which of the following are you comfortable leading at camp? (Please check all that apply)										
Archery					Games & Recreation					
Arts & Crafts					Music					
Backpacking					Nature					
Campfire Programs					Nature Activities (other than water)					
Canoeing					Relay Games					
Drama Activities					Science Discovery Activities					
Fishing					Singing					
Flag Ceremonies					Swimming					
Foods & Nutrition					Other (describe)					

Describe your experiences with 5 of the camp activities you identified on the front page.

Explain why you want to be a camp counselor.

What do you want to learn from your experience as a camp counselor?

If you have special dietary needs, please describe.



(Applicant Signature)

(Date completed)

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University of Wisconsin, United States Department of Agriculture and Wisconsin Counties Cooperating. UW-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title IX requirements. 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. TTY Phone Relay 711.



2016 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 (continued)	
1	New Year's Day – Office Closed	13	Meat Animal Quality Assurance
2	Dairy Goat Clinic	14	Horse Kick Off Meeting
4	Horse Committee Meeting	15	Communicator Articles Due
9	Clover Cooking	15	Leader's Council Meeting
10	Livestock Rules Meeting	17	4-H Expansion & Review Training
12	Livestock Committee Meeting	18-19	ArtBeat
12	Livestock Rules Meeting	23	Shooting Sports Orientation
14	Fairboard Meeting	TBD	Clover College
14	Parliamentary Procedure Training	TBD	Llama Kick Off Potluck
15	Communicator Articles Due	April	
18	Martin Luther King Day – Office Closed	2	Goat, Sheep, Swine Weigh-In
19	Leader's Council Meeting	4	Horse Committee Meeting
28	4-H State Team Applications Due	7	Shooting Sports Orientation
29-31	Art Lab	12	Livestock Committee Meeting
30	Dairy Quiz Bowl	14	Fairboard Meeting
31	Show Choir (Velocity) Applications Due	14	Service Learning Project Training
February		15	Communicator Articles Due
1	Key Award Applications Due	19	Leader's Council Meeting
1	M.E. Trip Applications Due	TBD	Cat Fun Show
1	Pig Project Scholarship Apps. Due	TBD	Dairy Judging
1	Horse Committee Meeting	TBD	Dog Project Informational Meeting
1	Camp Counselor Apps. Due	TBD	S.T.E.A.M
3	St. Croix County Speaking Contest	May	
6	Shepherd's Clinic & Trade Show	2	Horse Committee Meeting
9	Livestock Committee Meeting	5	Dog Training Meeting
11	Fairboard Meeting	7	Mayfair Fundraiser
12	Meats Judging Contest Registration	10	Livestock Committee Meeting
13	Mini Talent Explosion	12	Dog Training Meeting
15	President's Day – Office Closed	12	Fairboard Meeting
15	Communicator Articles Due	15	Communicator Articles Due
16	Leader's Council Meeting	17	Leader's Council Meeting
20	Horse Project Meat Raffle	19	Dog Training Meeting
20	4-H Meats Judging Contest	26	Dog Training Meeting
29	Fundraising 101 Training	30	Memorial Day – Office Closed
TBD	Dairy Committee Meeting	TBD	4-H Camp Counselor Training
TBD	State Youth Conference Interviews	TBD	Shooting Sports Training Sessions
March		TBD	Softball Coaches Meeting
1	County Scholarship Apps. Due	June	
5	Horse Kickoff Meeting	2	Dog Training Meeting
5	Livestock Quiz Bowl	4	4-H Horse Day Camp (Grades 3-5)
7	Horse Committee Meeting	6	Horse Committee Meeting
8	Livestock Committee Meeting	6	Meat Animal Quality Assurance
10	Dairy Committee Meeting	9	Fairboard Meeting
10	Fairboard Meeting	9	Dog Training Meeting
		11	Food Revue & Cake Decorating

June- Continued		September	
14	Livestock Committee Meeting	5	Labor Day – Office Closed
15	Communicator Articles Due	8	Fairboard Meeting
15	Fair Entries Due	12	Horse Committee Meeting
15-19	4-H Camp Grades 3-5; 15-17 4-H Camp Grades 5-7; 17-19	13	Livestock Committee Meeting
16	Dog Training Session	15	Communicator Articles Due
17-18	Rodeo	20	Leader's Council Meeting
20-23	WI 4-H & Youth Conference – Madison	TBD	Leader's Banquet
21	Leader's Council Meeting	October	
23	Dog Training Meeting	2-8	National 4-H Week
24-26	Horse Camp	3	Horse Committee Meeting
30	Area Animal Science Days	11	Livestock Committee Meeting
30	Dog Training Meeting	13	Fairboard Meeting
TBD	Clothing Revue	15	Communicator Articles Due
TBD	Shooting Sports Training Sessions	18	Leader's Council Meeting
July		November	
4	Independence Day Observation – Office Closed	7	Horse Committee Meeting
11	Dog Training Meeting	8	Livestock Committee Meeting
11	Horse Committee Meeting	10	Fairboard Meeting
12	Livestock Committee Meeting	15	Communicator Articles Due
13	Fair Clean Up	15	Enrollment Entry Due
14	Fairboard Meeting	15	Leader's Council Meeting
15	Communicator Articles Due	25	Thanksgiving – Office Closed
16	Cat Show	26	Day after Thanksgiving – Office Closed
16	Foods Fair (Foods only)	December	
20-24	St. Croix County Fair	3	Beef Weigh-In
TBD	4-H All Star Game	5	Horse Committee Meeting
TBD	4-H Softball Tournament	8	Fairboard Meeting
TBD	Cloverbud/Explorer Day Camps	10	Beef Weigh-In (Snow Date)
TBD	Competitive Shoots	13	Livestock Committee Meeting
August		15	Communicator Articles Due
1	Horse Committee Meeting	20	Leader's Council Meeting
5-15	Wisconsin State Fair	23	Christmas Eve – Office Closed
9	Livestock Committee Meeting	26	Christmas Day – Office Closed
11	Fairboard Meeting		
15	Communicator Articles Due		
16	Leader's Council Meeting		
TBD	District Gymkhana Show		
Other Important Dates to Remember:			

January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 New Year's Day Office Closed	2 9:30am – Dairy Goat Clinic (Kennett Residence)
3	4 7pm – Horse Committee Mtg. (Ag Center)	5 Due – Clover Cooking Registrations	6	7	8 Due – Art Lab Registration	9 9am – Clover Cooking (New Richmond)
10 1pm – Livestock (Meat and Breeding) Rules Meeting (Ag Center)	11	12 6:30pm – Livestock (Meat and Breeding) Rules Meeting 7:30pm – Livestock Committee (Both at Ag Center)	13	14 7pm – Youth/Adult Leader Training (Ag Center)	15	16
17	18 Martin Luther King Day Office Closed	19 7pm – Leader's Council Mtg. (Ag Center)	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 Due – 4-H Art & State Group Apps.	29 Art Lab (WI Dells)	30 Art Lab (WI Dells) Dairy Quiz Bowl
31 Art Lab (WI Dells) Due – Showchoir (Velocity) Applications						

February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Due – M.E. Trip Applications Due – Speaking Contest Entries Due – WI Pork Association Project Scholarship Apps. 7pm – Horse Committee Mtg. (Ag Center)	2	3 6pm – Speaking Contest (Ag Center)	4	5	6 Shepherd's Clinic & Trade Show (Rice Lake)
7	8	9 7:30pm – Livestock Committee (Ag Center)	10	11	12 Due – Meats Judging Contest Registration	13 Mini Talent Explosion
14	15 President's Day Office Closed	16 7pm – Leader's Council Mtg. (Ag Center)	17	18	19	20 12:30pm – Meats Judging Contest (UW Madison) 6pm – Meat Raffle (North Hudson)
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29 7pm – Youth/Adult Leader Training (Ag Center)					