

Polk County

January 2023

**TO MAKE THE
BEST BETTER**



Clover Connection

**THIS WILL BE YOUR LAST
NEWSLETTER,**

**IF YOU HAVE NOT YET RE-ENROLLED IN
4-H ONLINE. PLEASE RE-ENROLL AS SOON AS
POSSIBLE!**

CLUB REPRESENTED WHEN THE MONEY GETS SPENT?

The Polk County 4-H Leaders Federation Board of Directors is an Important Group for the Polk County 4-H Program. This Board Oversees the Program and Makes Important Decisions About How and Where the Financial Resources of the Program Are Spent. They

Also Provide Direction for The Educational Programs. Each Club Can Send One Adult and One Youth Member as Representatives to The Board. Youth Have an Equal Voice at The Table. The Board Meets Six Times a Year.

JAN. 23, 2023, 7PM JUSTICE CENTER

MARCH 27, 2023, 7PM JUSTICE CENTER

MAY 22, 2023, 7PM JUSTICE CENTER

Upcoming Ambassador Meetings

January 23, 2023 6pm Justice Center

March 27, 2023 6pm Justice Center

May 22, 2023 6pm Justice Center



Dear 4-H Families,

Welcome to the New Year! I hope you enjoyed some rest, relaxation, and time to connect with family and friends over the holidays.



As I reflect on the past year, I am so thankful to watch our Polk County 4-H program grow and thrive. There has been change, excitement, and a whole new energy brought by ideas and events we want to try. With this, many new families have been joining our program and we welcome them! We all need to work to ensure these new families feel welcome and have the information they need to succeed in 4-H and your help is appreciated. 4-H can seem complicated, with all the rules, terms, and deadlines. Maybe your family would be willing to mentor a new family that has joined your club and help them understand some of the ins and outs of the program. Make this a discussion at your next club meeting so that new families are getting the answers and help they need. Don't forget all the resources that are available on the state 4-H website - <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/>

In addition to the growth of our program, we have more to celebrate! Youth ages 13 and up were asked to complete a survey about their experience in Polk County 4-H, called the Wisconsin 4-H Youth Thriving Survey. These participants were asked about their feelings of value in the 4-H program, as well as how it meets their own needs. One of our strongest attributes in Polk County is the feeling of Youth/Adult Partnerships, meaning our youth have a strong voice in what happens in our county. This is what 4-H should be! Youth should take ownership and have equal value in their program, so great work to all the volunteers and youth that make that happen. Let's continue to think of new ways to give that voice to our young people and go even further.

Thank you all for your wonderful work and I hope you enjoy the New Year!

Sincerely,

Lindsay Spindler
4-H Program Educator

January 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 OFFICE CLOSED	3	4	5 Horse Project Committee Meeting	6 Member Evaluation Forms Due	7
8	9	10	11	12 Zoom interviews for Trips and Awards	13	14 Cloverbud Day Camp
15	16 OFFICE CLOSED	17	18	19	20 ~Camp Counselor Applications Due ~Celebrate the Arts Contest Entries are Due	21
22 ~In-Person Interviews for Trips and Awards ~VIP Training	23 ~Ambassador Meeting ~Leaders Federation Meeting	24	25	26 Building Up Steam	27	28
29	30	31				

January 2023

5: Horse Project Committee Meeting, 6:30pm located in the Justice Center

6: Member Evaluation Forms Due

12: Zoom Interviews for Trips and Awards, 6:30pm until Done

14: Cloverbud Day Camp, Winter Wonderland, 9am-1pm at the Amery Community Center

16: Office Closed

20: Camp Counselor Applications DUE!

20: Celebrate the Arts Contest Entries are DUE

22: In Person Interviews for Trips and Awards, 2pm until Done.

22: VIP Training, 4pm Justice Center or Zoom

23: Ambassador Meeting, 6pm at the Justice Center

23: Leaders Federation Meeting, 7pm at the Justice Center

26: Building Up Steam, 4-5:30pm at the St. Croix Public Library

February

12: Camp Counselor Training, 6:30pm-7:30pm via Zoom

13: Interstate Livestock Show Committee Meeting, 7pm via Zoom

19: Sheep Kick-Off, 2-4pm Justice Center

23: Building Up Steam, 4-5:30pm at the St. Croix Public Library

25: Clover College

25: Wisconsin 4-H Dairy Bowl

March

9: Robotics Kick-Off Meeting at 6:30pm-8pm. Located at, First Presbyterian Church of SCF at 719 Nevada St., SCF.

15: Registrations for the Talent Expo are DUE!

23: Robotics Workshop, 6:30pm-8pm, located at First Presbyterian Church of SCF at 719 Nevada St., SCF.

30: Building Up Steam, 4-5:30pm at the St. Croix Public Library

April

15: Talent Expo, Location TBD

20: Robotics Workshop, 6:30pm-8pm, located at First Presbyterian Church of SCF at 719 Nevada St., SCF.



CALLING ALL 4-H

ARTISTS! The Wisconsin 4-H Foundation is hosting their annual Celebrate the Arts Contest. Winning submissions will be auctioned off, with proceeds benefiting 4-H program opportunities throughout the state.

Interested in submitting your work? Visit <https://wis4hfoundation.org/celebrate-the-arts/> for more information, as well as contest rules. **SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTING UNTIL JANUARY 20, 2023.**

St. Croix Falls Public Library and
Polk County 4-H Present

BUILDING UP STEAM

A FREE AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM OPEN TO YOUTH IN GRADES 3-8

4:00 PM - 5:30 PM AT THE ST. CROIX FALLS PUBLIC LIBRARY

Join us once a month throughout the school year to inspire students
to think creatively, collaborate, and solve problems.

Program Dates:

Thursday, September 29, 2022

Thursday, October 27, 2022

Thursday, November 17, 2022

Thursday, December 22, 2022

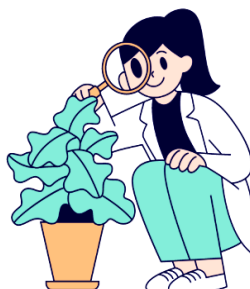
Thursday, January 26, 2023

Thursday, February 23, 2023

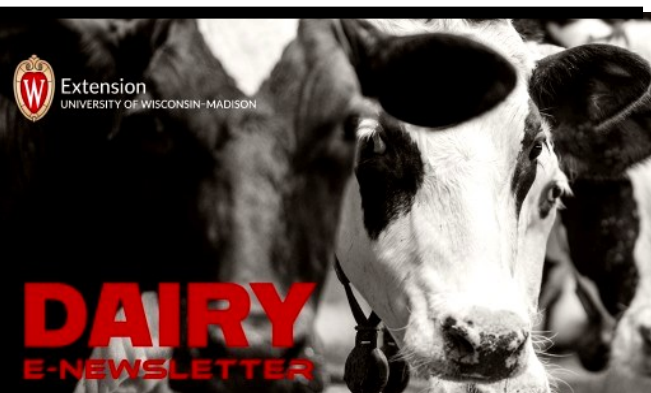
Thursday, March 30, 2023

Thursday, April 27, 2023

Thursday, May 25, 2023



**IF YOU HAVEN'T
DONE SO ALREADY,
PLEASE CASH IN
YOUR FAIR
CHECKS!**



**Scan the QR Code to
Sign Up for the Dairy
Newsletter!** We promise
we won't spam you! We intend to
publish every 4-6 weeks. Our
newsletters will contain 1-2
articles, upcoming events, and a
spotlight on an educator or specialist.

PO-CROIX-BAR-PIERCE 4-H CAMP COUNSELOR APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE!

Do you love 4-H camp and want to help younger members experience the fun of camp too? Become a camp counselor! Youth in grades 9-13 are encouraged to apply to become a camp counselor for this year's 4-H camp, June 14-16, 2023. We will be hosting several trainings to prepare you for your role, so no worries if you don't know how to be a counselor, or even if you've never attended camp before!

**APPLICATIONS WILL BE DUE JAN. 20, 2023 TO THE POLK COUNTY
EXTENSION OFFICE.**

Paper forms can be found in this month's Clover Connection or you can go to <https://go.wisc.edu/xrr3u3> to complete it online.

Training dates will be held in a combination of virtual and in-person.

- Sunday, February 12 6:30-7:30 PM via Zoom - Connections and Planning
- Sunday, March 5 6:30-7:30 PM via Zoom - Policies and Planning
- Sunday, April 30 1:00-5:00 PM in-person, Polk County Fairgrounds 4-H Building
- Tuesday, June 13 10:00 AM-2:00 PM in-person, Camp Kiwanis

Please reach out to Lindsay at lindsay.spindler@wisc.edu if you have any questions.



BECOME A 4-H VOLUNTEER!

Volunteers help make 4-H possible!

To volunteer, you don't need to have previous experience working with youth. The most important qualifications are:

- A desire to work with young people to help them learn new things and gain life skills; and
- Wanting to provide youth with positive experiences in a safe and welcoming environment.

If you are 18 years or older and interested in becoming a 4-H volunteer, we can help. We will provide new volunteers with [Volunteers in Preparation Training](#) about how to work effectively with youth and what resources are available to volunteers. We will also ask you to participate in a [Mandated Reporter Training](#) & [Title IX Training](#) to learn more about how to protect youth from child abuse and neglect. Finally, to ensure the safety of all youth and volunteers, a [Volunteer Behavior Expectations Agreement](#) and background check are required.

Depending on their role, some volunteers may be asked to complete subject matter specific trainings as well as training to enrich their knowledge of youth

development (for example chaperones or Shooting Sports leaders).

All volunteers, both new and returning, are also required to take training on how to report sexual

misconduct. Answers to questions about reporting and training [are available on our FAQ page](#).

For more information on becoming a volunteer please contact Lindsay Spindler, Lindsay.spindler@wisc.edu



DO YOU HAVE A SPECIAL TALENT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE?


Join us on April 15 for the 2023 Talent Expo. Entries include instrumental, piano, or vocal performances, demonstration speeches, interpretive reading, original speech, plays, group musical performances, and NEW this year, digital media entry! Gather your friends, club members, or go for a solo and create something great to showcase your talents.

Registration will be completed through 4-H Online (under events), but paper forms are available by request. All large group performances will need to fill out a paper form. See full event descriptions and large group registration forms in this month's newsletter. **ALL REGISTRATIONS ARE DUE BY MARCH 15TH.**

GIVE NOW TO SUPPORT POLK COUNTY 4-H

By donating to 4-H, your support will provide our youth access to education resources and learning opportunities when they need it the most. These hands-on learning experiences will help build the confidence and skills they'll need to navigate life's challenges.

To donate please go to <https://wis4hfoundation.org/polk-county-4-h/>



JOIN the ROBOTICS

Youth interested in Robotics who are Explorers (9-19 years old), this is your chance to sign up to work with Sphero Ball programming and EV3 Robot construction and programming. These workshops are intended to get a Robotics youth and their project ready for the Pre-Fair Run Off.

In these workshops youth will have a chance to work at various levels of complexities in Robotics with guidance if needed. Youth will have an opportunity to work with Sphero balls and learn to program them to run/light/sound in various complexities of courses. They will also have a chance to build EV3 Robots and learn to program them to use various sensors and run various challenges.

Work Shop Dates:

March 9th, Thursday 6:30 to 8 pm: Kick-Off (All MUST Attend),

March 23rd, Thursday 6:30 to 8 pm,

April 20th, Thursday 6:30 to 8 pm,

May 4th, Thursday 6:30 to 8 pm,

May 20th, Saturday 9 to 11 am,

June 3rd, Saturday 9 to 11 am,

June 24th, Saturday 1 to 3 pm*.

Our Pre-Fair Run Off is tentatively scheduled for July 8th, Saturday 12:30 until done.

All workshops and the Pre-Fair Run Off will be held at First Presbyterian Church of SCF at 719 Nevada St., SCF.

Any questions, please email Shirley at smillerfrey@gmail.com.



POLK COUNTY 4-H

Winter Wonderland

CLOVERBUD DAY CAMP

SATURDAY
JANUARY 14
AMERY COMMUNITY CENTER
9:00AM - 1:00PM

FREE AND OPEN TO ANY YOUTH IN KINDERGARTEN-THIRD GRADE
GAMES, CRAFTS, HANDS-ON SCIENCE, AND SO MUCH MORE!

PLEASE BRING A PACKED LUNCH.

This event is full! If you wish to be placed on a waiting list, please email Lindsay at Lindsay.splindlar@wisc.edu

WI 4-H DAIRY BOWL RETURNS IN 2023

THE WISCONSIN 4-H DAIRY BOWL WILL BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 25TH.

The Dairy Bowl is open to anyone in grades 3-13, in the dairy project. It is designed to help youth understand more about dairy cattle and the Dairy industry while working together with people from your county. Participants will be asked two sets of oral questions each round about different topics. Topics include nutrition, breed specific, dairy cattle biology, and many more!

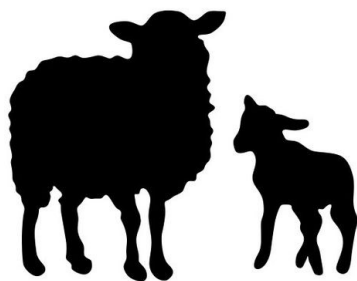


This is the perfect time to grow and test your knowledge within the dairy project!

If you are interested in putting together a team within your county, registration will open early January through 4-H Online. If you have only a three or fewer person team, NEW this year to the 4-H competition is an All-Wisconsin Team. The All-Wisconsin team is a team that is made up of kids from around the state that want to participate but don't have a full team or are a single from their county. Teams will be assigned by the state office.

For more information please visit, <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/statewide-events-and-opportunities/dairy-quiz-bowl/>

SHEEP KICK- OFF MEETING

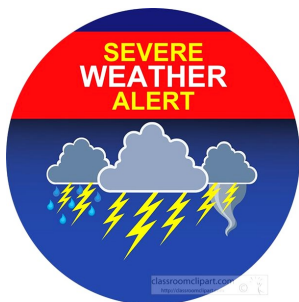


**FEBRUARY 19, 2-4 PM
JUSTICE CENTER,
COMMUNITY ROOM**

WHAT'S UP WITH YOUR CLUB?

Would you like your Club featured in the next Clover Newsletter? It's simple! Write up a short article telling us just how fun your club's event was and make sure to include a picture with the names of the members featured. Let us and other clubs know the good work you are doing in the community! To share your clubs story please email

Kerry at: kerry.hill2@wisc.edu



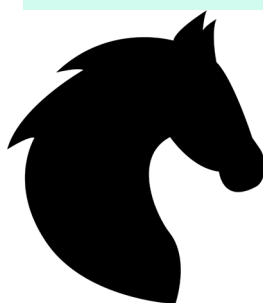
ATTENTION!

It's that time of year again where winter weather can be very unpredictable. Due to any unforeseen weather conditions some UW-Extension programs and activities may cancel without notice. Please make sure

your email is updated in 4HOnline so we can send out cancellation emails, and please check on the website for cancellation updates as well. (<https://polk.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-youth-development/welcome-to-4-h/4-h-calendar/>)



**HORSE
PROJECT
COMMITTEE
MEETING** WILL
BE MEETING ON
**JANUARY 5TH AT
6:30PM IN THE
COMMUNITY ROOM**



**AT THE
JUSTICE
CENTER**



Pleasant Lake 4-H Club
December activities included making Holiday gifts for local nursing home residents, and ringing the bell for the Salvation Army Red Kettle drive. We also had a special guest speaker at our monthly meeting to talk about our project emphasis for the month – arts & Crafts. A special thank-you to Helen Johnson!



The West Sweden 4H Club members had a toy drive for the Community Referral Agency on 12/11/22.

Deronda Diplomats December meeting was full with activities! Toys for Tots donations, cookies, Christmas BINGO and crafts!!



2023 ROBOTICS REGISTRATION FORM

To **Register please complete the following and email By Friday, February 24th** to Shirley @ smillerfrey@gmail.com. Registration is first come first serve and limited due to the number of kits we have. Dates and times for the workshops are listed below: **Youth Must be at** the first Kickoff meeting **March 9 at 6:30 – 8 pm** (kits will be assign to youth this evening) and **at least 5 of the 7 dates** of workshops to be able to complete their project. All workshops and the Pre-Fair Run Off will be held at First Presbyterian Church of SCF at 719 Nevada St., SCF.

Name of youth: _____

Age of youth: _____

Youth wants to work with (please x the line):

Sphero Balls: _____ (this is all about programing at different and new challenge levels)

EV3 Robots: _____ (this is building a Bot from a kit and program to meet challenges)

Both: _____

“Junk Box Robotics”: _____ (Build from “whatever” your materials and programing)

4-H Club youth is a member: _____

Is youth registered in the Robotics project? _____ Yes _____ No

Does youth want to show Robotics at the Polk Co. Fair? Yes _____ No _____

Name of Parent: _____

Contact phone number for parent: _____

Email address for parent: _____

Work Shop dates: **March 9th**, Thursday **6:30 to 8 pm** = Kick off (All must attend), **March 23rd**, Thursday **6:30 to 8 pm**, **April 20th**, Thursday **6:30 to 8 pm**, **May 4th**, Thursday **6:30 to 8 pm**, **May 20th**, Saturday **9 to 11 am**, **June 3rd**, Saturday **9 to 11 am**, **June 24th**, Saturday **1 to 3 pm***. Our Pre-Fair Run Off is tentatively scheduled for July 8th, Saturday 12:30 until done.

In these workshops youth will have a chance to work at various levels of complexities in Robotics with guidance if needed. Youth will have an opportunity to work with Sphero balls and learn to program them to run/light/sound in various complexities of courses. They will also have a chance to build EV3 Robots and learn to program them to use various sensors and run various challenges. Any questions, please email Shirley at smillerfrey@gmail.com.

Talent Expo 2023

Music * Speaking * Demonstrations * Drama * Video

Saturday, April 15, 2023

Location to be determined

Events may be eligible for fair premiums. Check with your local fair for information. Youth may receive fair premium for Demonstration (J-18), Musical Performance (J-18), and (Speaking (J-31) An exhibit related to this performance may also be displayed at the fair.

Speaking/Interpretive Reading Entry

Open to youth grades K and up, except 4-H Pledge (K-4) and FFA Creed (6-9)

Original Speech - Open to all youth. Talks should be developed by the member who is presenting it. No posters or props may be used. The youth may speak about any topic of interest. TIMES: Grades K-2: 1-2 minutes; Grades 3-5: 2-3 minutes; Grades 6-8: 3-4 minutes; Grades 9-13: 4-6 minutes.

4-H Pledge - For youth Cloverbud up to Grade 4. Cloverbuds will not receive a fair premium. Pledge must be memorized. Youth will be judged on voice, stage presence, expression, general effect, and correctness.

FFA Creed – For youth in Grades 6-9. Creed must be memorized. Youth will be judged on voice, stage presence, expression, general effect, and correctness.

Interpretive Reading - Open to all youth, individual or group. Selections may be prose or poetry, original or selected reading. If not an original, the author must be credited. Include a short introduction to your reading. Reading should NOT be memorized. Use full-sized copies of selections (not note cards). No podium will be provided. TIMES (Individual or Team): Grades K-2: 1-2 minutes; Grades 3-5: 2-3 minutes; Grades 6-8: 3-4 minutes; Grades 9-13: 4-6 minutes. **For groups, age is determined by oldest member*

Demonstration Entry

Open to youth grades Kindergarten and up, Individual or Team, one 8-foot table is provided.

Formal Demonstration – Showing and telling an audience how to make or do something. Presents information through actions with an explanation. Has an introduction, body and conclusion followed by a time to answer questions. Select a topic of interest to you. Props and visual aids are encouraged TIMES: Grades K-2: 2-4 minute demonstration; Grades 3-5: 4-7 minute demonstration; Grades 6-8: 5-8 minute demonstration; Grades 9-13: 8-10 minute demonstration.

Action Demonstration – Sharing ideas or showing how to do a skill in an informal way. The audience may participate and ask questions throughout the demonstration. The demonstrator(s) converses with audience members who are standing around the table/area. The audience participates by talking with the demonstrator, trying things, doing, tasting, asking questions, etc. Handouts, posters, pictures can be used. Select a topic of interest to you. Youth must interact and have enough supplies for the audience to take part in the demonstration. TIMES: Action demonstrations for all age groups should be up to 15 minutes.

Musical Performance Entry -Vocal, Dance, Instrumental

open to youth grades Kindergarten-13, solo or groups of 4 or less) 4-H members may enter in more than one category. Each participant should bring a copy of their music for the judge.

A piano is not available in the instrumental room.

Vocal- Performances should emphasize vocal qualities and delivery. **TIMES:** No longer than 5 minutes.

Dance- Performances should be original and show interpretation of the musical selection.

Instrumental- Includes all instruments other than Piano. Please note: *a piano is NOT available in the instrumental room for accompaniment.*

Piano- Performance should show proper interpretation of the musical selection through the use of dynamics, expression, and precision.

Group Musical Performance

Performances may include vocals, instrumentals, and/or dance. Pantomiming or lip synching to recordings is not permitted.

- Performances must include five or more performers.
- All props will be the responsibility of the performers/directors.
- All performers and directors must be currently enrolled as Barron, Pierce, Polk, or St. Croix County 4-H members/volunteers.
- No hay bales, straw bales, candles, real fires, liquids, or weapons of any kind (real or fake) will be used in performances.
- Performances should be no longer than 15 minutes in length, including set-up and take-down.
- Accompanists or directors will not be allowed to sing along with their group's presentation.
- Groups should give a brief introduction to the musical performance to set the stage.

Drama Entry

- All props will be the responsibility of the performers/directors.
- All actors and directors must be currently enrolled Barron, Pierce, Polk, or St. Croix County 4-H members/volunteers.
- No hay bales, straw bales, candles, real fires, liquids, or weapons of any kind (real or fake) will be used in performances.
- Performances must include two or more actors.

On Stage Drama—Performance length can be up to 30 minutes, including set-up and take-down time.

Mini-Drama or Skit —Mini-dramas and skits can be performed at or in any place (setting) without a stage and might include puppetry, creative dramatics, etc.

Mini-dramas may use props and costumes. Skits use minimal or no props and costumes. Performance length can be up to 15 minutes, including set-up and take-down time.

Digital Media Entry -New in 2023!

Open to youth grades 3 and up, Individual or Team

Digital Video Creation – A creative or informational work on any topic in digital video format. Can include action, still images, music, voice, etc. Be prepared to answer questions about your editing and planning. TIMES: Grades 3-5: 2-4 minute video; Grades 6-8: 3-5 minute video; Grades 9-13: 4-7 minute video.

Score Sheets can be found here: <https://go.wisc.edu/4rqbrg>

Saturday, April 15, 2023

Location TBD

Drama Entry

Clubs may have multiple on-stage and mini-dramas. Drama performances are not a fair entry; there is no premium.

- All props will be the responsibility of the performers/directors.
- All actors and directors must be currently enrolled Barron or Polk County 4-H members/volunteers.
- No hay bales, straw bales, candles, real fires, liquids, or weapons of any kind (real or fake) will be used in performances.
- Performances must include two or more actors.

On Stage Drama

- Performance length can be up to 30 minutes, including set-up and take-down time.

Mini-Drama or Skit

- Mini-dramas and skits can be performed at or in any place (setting) without a stage and might include puppetry, creative dramatics, etc.
- Mini-dramas may use props and costumes. Skits use minimal or no props and costumes.
- Performance length can be up to 15 minutes, including set-up and take-down time.

Check category: ☐ On Stage Drama ☐ Mini Drama or Skit

Name of Club: _____ County: ☐ Barron ☐ Pierce ☐ Polk ☐ St. Croix

Title of Performance: _____

Director(s): _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Original Script: ☐ Yes ☐ No Stage Hand/Props Manager: _____

Cast:

Character Name	4-H Member Name

Continue Cast on Back or Separate Page

Drama and Musical Group Entries can be mailed or emailed to:

Extension Barron County 4-H, 335 E. Monroe Ave. Rm. 2206 Barron, WI 54812 or sara.waldron@wisc.edu

ENTRIES DUE: MARCH 15, 2023

University of Wisconsin - Extension
Polk County Office
100 Polk Plaza, Suite G600
Balsam Lake, WI 54810
Phone: (715) 485-8600

Presorted Standard
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Permit No. 9



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
POLK COUNTY

The University of Wisconsin-Extension provides Title IX requirements, which include affirmative action and equal opportunity in education, programming and employment for all qualified persons regardless of race, color, gender, creed, disability, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, sexual orientation, pregnancy, marital or parental status, arrest or conviction record or veteran status.
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 confidential (ADA requirements).