

# Polk County Clover Connection

December 2023



## RE-ENROLL IN 4-H TODAY!

We Encourage **ALL** Members to Re-Enroll by January 1st.

Wondering "Why?"

Here are the Top 5 Reasons:

- Members will be covered by our 4-H insurance at 4-H events.
- Families will get the newsletter.
- Members can receive broadcast emails about 4-H events.
- Leaders will have a list of all members in the club.
- You will not have to worry about enrolling at the last minute and potentially make mistakes that will impact your fair entry.



**4x**

more likely to  
contribute to their  
communities

**2x**

more likely to be  
civically active

**2x**

more likely to make  
healthier lifestyle  
choices

**2x**

more likely to  
participate in out-of-  
school programs



UW-MADISON EXTENSION

## 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](mailto:kerry.hill2@wisc.edu)

## 4-H ENROLLMENT & RE-ENROLLMENT FOR 2023-24 BEGINS NOW!!

Spindler, Lindsay.spindler@wisc.edu, or Kerry Hill, kerry.hill2@wisc.edu, or you can call the office 715-485-8600.

Enrollment in 4honline 2.0 is now open! Please visit <http://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in> to re-enroll, or if a new family, to create an account and set-up your family profile. Please visit <https://polk.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-youth-development/4h-enrollment-information/> for enrollment information or instructions on how to set up a new family profile. If you have questions, please reach out to Lindsay



4-H ENROLLMENT AND EVENT REGISTRATION

# December 2023



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

					1 ~Last Day to apply to National 4-H Conference	2 ~ Beef Weigh- In
3	4 <b>Office Closed</b>	5 ~ Committee Meetings. Please check the newsletter for more information	6	7 ~ Committee Meetings. Please check the newsletter for more information ~VIP Training	8	9 ~VIP Training
10	11 ~ M.E Workshop ~ VIP Training	12	13	14	15 ~Registration Closes for Space Camp ~Registration Closes for Cooking with Meat	16
17	18	19 ~VIP Training	20	21	22	23
24 	25 	26 <b>Office Closed</b>	27	28 ~VIP Training	29 <b>Office Closed</b>	30
31 ~ Last day to register for Citizenship						

## DECEMBER

- 1: Please Re-Enroll to keep receiving newsletters
- 1: Last day to apply to National 4-H Conference
- 1: Registration Opens for Citizenship Washington Focus
- 2: Beef Weigh-In , Polk County Fairgrounds at 8am
- 4: OFFICE CLOSED (Area Extension Meeting)**
- 5: Woodworking Committee Meeting, Exploring/Cloverbud Committee Meeting, Photography Committee Meeting, Horse Committee Meeting
- 7: Environmental Sciences/Nature/Space/Adventure Committee Meeting, Llama Committee Meeting, Poultry Committee Meeting, Rabbit Committee Meeting, Youth Leadership Committee Meeting.
- 7: VIP training via Zoom, 3-4:30pm
- 9: VIP training via Zoom, 9am-10:30am
- 11 : ME Workshop Date, 6:30pm at First Presbyterian Church, St Croix Falls
- 11: VIP training via zoom, 6:30-8pm
- 15: Registration closes for Cooking with Meat
- 15: Registration closes for Space Camp
- 19: VIP training via Zoom, 4:30-6pm
- 25: OFFICE CLOSED, MARRY CHRISTMAS!**
- 26: OFFICE CLOSED (Christmas Eve Day Observed)**
- 28: VIP training via Zoom, 11:30am-1pm
- 29: OFFICE CLOSED (New Years Eve Day Observed)**
- 31: Last Day to register for Citizenship Washington Focus

## JANUARY 2024

- 1: OFFICE CLOSED (New Years Day)**
- 5: 4-H Youth Applications are due to the Office.
- 15: OFFICE CLOSED (Martin Luther King Jr Day)**
- 16: Last day to sign up for the state art team
- 19: 4-H Camp Counselor Applications Due!
- 22: Wildlife and Woods, Zoom





# The New 2024 Wisconsin 4-H Leadership Council

The new youth and adult members of the Wisconsin 4-H Leadership Council were elected at the Fall Forum conference, November 4-5, 2023, at the Green Lake Conference Center. Youth and adults from across the state applied to be part of the new council and went through an election process to be selected for the 2023-24 council. **Our very own Polk County 4-H Alumni, Maggie Conlan, has been elected as a Northern Region adult representative. Congratulations Maggie!**

The Wisconsin 4-H Leadership Council (WLC) provides a statewide forum for youth and adult volunteer leaders to discuss ideas and provide input to enhance UW-Madison Extension 4-H Youth Development programs at the state, county, and local levels. WLC members:

- Serve as leaders and role models for 4-H youth and adults
- Advocate for Wisconsin 4-H
- Provide input for enhancing the 4-H program
- Provide educational opportunities to 4-H members and leaders
- Connect the county, regional, and state levels of Wisconsin 4-H, as well as the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation

Elected at the annual Fall Forum, the WLC helps to plan multiple statewide programs and provides leadership in those settings.

For more information on the Wisconsin 4-H

Leadership Council,

visit <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/statewide-events-and-opportunities/wisconsin-4-h-leadership-council/>.



## Interstate Livestock Show

SAVE THE DATE FOR THIS YEAR'S SHOW! JUNE 22, 2024

### Interstate Livestock Youth Show



Interested in contributing your ideas to the 2024 Interstate Livestock Show? Join our Zoom meeting on **February 20th, 2024 at 7:00 pm**. We are looking for both youth and adult voice to shape this year's show!



Beef, Goat, and Sheep Junior Show, Educational Events, Great Prizes!

Zoom link: <https://go.wisc.edu/x9heu>

Contact Lindsay for more details at [lindsay.spindler@wisc.edu](mailto:lindsay.spindler@wisc.edu)

Please complete your enrollment by January 1, 2024 to keep receiving the Clover Connection newsletter. If not re-enrolled by the new year, this will be your last newsletter.

## 2023 ANNUAL PROJECT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Polk County 4-H committees will meet on November and December. Make sure your voice is heard and help shape the calendar for the coming year! We are looking to add educational opportunities for our 4-H youth, so please come and help share your ideas!

If you have any questions, please email Lindsay at [Lindsay.spindler@wisc.edu](mailto:Lindsay.spindler@wisc.edu). Volunteers who attend committee meetings, and get their names on the meeting minutes will automatically be added to the committee roster.

### December 5th, 7PM

- Woodworking
- Exploring/Cloverbuds
- Photography
- Horse

### December 7th, 7PM

- Environmental Sciences/Nature Space/Adventures
- Llama
- Poultry
- Rabbits
- Youth Leadership/Citizenship

# 2023 POLK COUNTY 4-H AWARDS HIGHLIGHTS

## County 4-H Award Winners

### **Jeanne Alling - Meritorious Service and Alumni Award**

Jeanne Alling has been a club leader for South Milltown 4-H club for nearly 25 years, as well as the Unity FFA advisor during her career with Unity School District. Jeanne has been an instrumental member of the Polk County community, active on the Polk County Fair Board, Unity Lions Club, Polk County HCE, Polk County Ag Advocates, and the Centuria Memory Days Committee. Her dedication to the youth in our 4-H program has had a major impact over the years. Congratulations and thank you Jeanne for all that you have done for Polk County 4-H!

### **Melissa Traiser - Meritorious Award**

Melissa Traiser grew up being Cedar Lake 4-H member, but after some time this club was dissolved due to changing interests in the county. When a group of new leaders wanted to start this club back up, Melissa was there to support the group with advice, club history, and memorabilia. With these, the Cedar Lake 4-H club was able to begin again and is a thriving club in our county! Without Melissa's wealth of information and support, it would have been a struggle to get this club going again. She's also one of the 4-H members biggest fans and she made sure to come support them all at the fair. Thank you Melissa for helping to revive a historic club and we congratulate you on your Meritorious Service Award!



# 2023 Polk County 4-H Awards Highlights

## **Jerry Larsen - Alumni Award**

Jerry Larsen grew up in Polk County 4-H, as a member of the South Milltown 4-H club. Jerry was active in the dairy and woodworking projects. As a youth, he received the Key Award and began to apply the skills he learned through 4-H to become a part of Wis-Lar Farms Inc. after graduation, which was Wisconsin's first dairy farm to have a 20,000-pound herd average. Jerry's three children were all active in 4-H, with Jerry having received his 20-year leadership recognition award for working with youth in the Polk County 4-H program. Jerry has continued to make an impact on agriculture promotion in our community and we thank him for all that he has done!

## 2023 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS!

### 2023 Polk County 4-H Scholarship Recipients

*Emily Roessler, Lucky Horseshoe*

*Macy Johnson, Cushing*

*Maggie Brown, Shooting Stars*

*Mike Boland, Shooting Stars*



### 2023 John W Kjar Scholarship Recipients

*Maggie Brown, Shooting Stars*

*Mike Boland, Shooting Stars*

### 2023 Wisconsin 4-H Foundation Scholarships

*The Wisconsin 4-H Foundation awards more than \$20,000 in scholarships to outstanding Wisconsin 4-H members and alumni pursuing higher education annually. Wisconsin 4-H Foundation scholarships are awarded to students based on demonstrated personal growth through 4-H, development and leadership in 4-H, academic performance and future educational goals.*

*This year was another extremely competitive year, with only the top 5% of all applicants receiving scholarships:*

*Oscar G & Mary W. Woelfel Memorial Scholarship: Courtney Glenna*

*T.L. Bewick Memorial Scholarship: Ann Boland*



# Beef Weigh-In

Beef weigh-in for Quality Meats project will be  
**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup>, 8AM TO 10AM AT THE POLK COUNTY  
FAIRGROUNDS SCALE BUILDING.**

Preregistration required at <https://forms.gle/gc8XiqNQ9dxNAPt9A> registration will be open mid-November.  
Contact Jake Loen 715-557-0138 or Craig Scholz 612-751-3236 with any questions.



## Wildlife & Woods

### CAREERS & COMPETITION

#### VIRTUAL SERIES

**NOV. 27, 2023**

**JAN. 22, 2024**

**FEB. 26, 2024**

**MAR. 25, 2024**

**APRIL 22, 2024**

**MAY 27, 2024**

Register via 4-H  
Online  
[wi.4honline.com](http://wi.4honline.com)



To learn more about virtual learning opportunities,  
please visit [4h.extension.wisc.edu/vlc](http://4h.extension.wisc.edu/vlc)



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

Join us for virtual opportunities  
to learn about Careers &  
Competitions in Wildlife &  
Woods! This new virtual series is  
open to youth in grades 6-12 and  
adult leaders. Come learn about  
what's available for our older  
youth in 4-H! Event registration is  
open now in 4HOnline. You can  
attend as many hour long sessions  
as you like!

**4-H YOUTH  
APPLICATIONS ARE  
DUE: FRIDAY, JANUARY  
5TH BY 4:30PM .** You can  
find the applications on our website  
at <https://shorturl.at/ikOW4>

### Checklist for Applicants Key Award and Educational Experience Financial Awards

Here is a helpful list of items you will need to  
have completed in order to submit your  
application.

- Key Award and Educational Experience  
Cover Letter
- Member Evaluation Form (M.E)
- 4-H Leader Evaluation and  
Recommendation Form

In addition to turning in these forms you will  
be required to complete an interview with our  
Polk County Awards Committee. **Interviews  
are TBD**, but will be conducting in-person or  
on Zoom. You will be contacted after  
submitting your materials y our Awards  
Committee chair to schedule this interview.

**Please contact Shirly Miller-Frey if you  
have any questions, [smillerfrey@gmail.com](mailto:smillerfrey@gmail.com)**

**CALLING ALL 4-H'ERS 7TH  
GRADE AND UP! JOIN US FOR  
THE UPCOMING M.E. (MEMBER  
EVALUATION) WORKSHOP FOR HELP  
DEVELOPING AND WRITING YOUR  
M.E. FORMS.**

**Are you interested in attending any of the  
great trips 4-H has coming up?** Polk County  
Leader Federation can help cover the cost! Generous  
scholarships are available and we can help you access  
those funds. Shirley Miller-Frey will be hosting three  
workshops to help members complete their Member  
Evaluation forms. Member Evaluation forms are also  
used for the Key Award and 4-H scholarships for  
graduating members. Don't miss out this great oppor-  
tunity!

**M.E. Writing Workshop will be held on  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 11TH, 6:30PM-  
8PM AT THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH ( 719 NEVADA ST. ST CROIX  
FALLS).**

## Wisconsin 4-H is participating in the **#4HThriving** Model survey!

Parents with youth ages 13-19, please watch for an email with directions and the survey to complete. Your participation will help make decisions for upcoming programs, training, and resources. Don't forget, those who complete the survey will be entered to win one of 100 \$25 Amazon gift cards! **Polk County will also be giving away prizes to 5 lucky winners**



## ARE YOU IN NEED OF VIP TRAINING?

The Wisconsin 4-H now offers VIP trainings virtually so you can participate from the comfort of your home. To see upcoming dates and times and to register for a class, please visit

<https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/calendar/>

## Become a Volunteer TODAY!

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](#) 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 or visit the WI 4-H Volunteer page at <https://shorturl.at/afSW7>

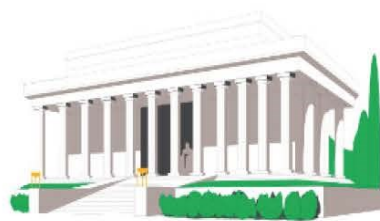
## BY VOLUNTEERING WITH 4-H, YOU







CITIZENSHIP  
WASHINGTON  
FOCUS



**GRADES 10-12**  
**SUMMER 2024**  
**WASHINGTON D.C.**

*CWF is the premier week long 4-H citizenship and leadership experience, bringing 4-H delegations from all over the country to stay in Washington D.C., our nation's Capitol!*



**Experiences Include:**

**Gettysburg and Mount Vernon Tour**

**National Museum of African American History & Culture**

**Meetings with Wisconsin State Senators**

**Capitol Hill and National Mall Tour**

**Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery**

**Workshops with 4-H Members from all across the U.S.**



**Delegate Workshops Include:**

**Citizenship Toolbox:** By exploring what it means to be a good citizen, delegates identify their own skill set to become active citizens and leaders in their communities back home.

**Congressional Issues:** Delegates will have open discussions with different perspectives on real national issues in the government today.

**Bill Writing:** Delegates learn the process of writing a bill in the House of Representatives and then write one of their own. They will then hold a mock House of Representatives meeting where they will discuss and either pass or deny said bills.

**Action Planning:** By combining all of the skills they have learned at CWF, the entire delegation will discuss what issues are prominent in their communities. They will then develop a plan to take back and implement positive change into their hometowns.

*The following experiences tend to fill up quickly and will be available on a first come, first serve basis: CWF, National 4-H Congress, National 4-H Conference, American Spirit East, Space Camp, and Advanced Space Academy.*

# THE 2024 STATE ARTS TEAM AND DRAMA COMPANY APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN UNTIL JANUARY 16TH, 2024. OPEN FOR GRADES 9-13

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

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



## Applications Now Open For

*State Teams*

Drama Company and State Arts Teams Applications are now open!  
Apply on 4-H Online Today!  
Applications close January 16th, 2024

## SAVE THE DATE!

Do you have a talent in music, speech, dance, acting, or video making? Get ready for the 2024 Barron-Polk Talent Expo!

Club entries in skits or plays are strongly encouraged!

Entries open through 4-H Online after January 20th.



BARRON-POLK



TALENT

EXPO

Saturday, April 13th, 2024  
Turtle Lake School



# COOKING WITH MEAT

Project Box  
Grades 3 & Up

**Do you want to learn more about cooking with meat from one of the following market animal projects: beef, swine, sheep, goat, poultry, or rabbit?**

Calumet County 4-H and the Distance Learning Team brings you the opportunity to participate in the Cooking with Meat Project Box. By participating in this distance learning project, youth will learn the following:

- The safe way to cook, store, freeze and thaw meat of the different project species.
- How to find the correct internal temperature of the cuts of meat.
- Try different recipes, helping them learn different ways to flavor and cook meat.

We encourage youth to learn to cook with the animal species they may be raising, but also to try others to learn some differences and other skills. There will be a Zoom meeting hosted by Bernie O'Rourke, Extension Livestock Specialist, to lead youth through a cooking lesson, using the information in the Cooking with Meat box.

Youth participants will also have access to a Google website where copies of the handouts will be available, the recording will be posted, and for them to engage with other youth from around the state to share what they cook. This box will have some delicious recipes to help you learn some valuable life skills, so don't miss out on this scrumptious opportunity! Boxes will be picked up from your local county extension office. Registration closes on December 15th. You can use the QR code or this [link](#) to register:

Included in the box:

- meat probe
- cutting board
- bamboo skewers
- internal temp magnet
- cooking with meat book
- Access to virtual cooking session in Jan or Feb 2024



**What's Included:**

- meat probe
- cutting board
- bamboo skewers
- internal temp magnet
- cooking with meat book



Extension  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

## Cooking with Meat Project Box

Information you should know:

- Grades 3 & Up can participate
- All youth in all counties are eligible to participate
- Kits will be sent to county offices for distribution first week of January -- please keep this in mind before ordering a box



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



# NATIONAL 4-H CONFERENCE



**GRADES 10-12**  
**APRIL 19-24, 2024**  
**WASHINGTON D.C.**

**National 4-H Conference** annually brings 4-H youth and adults from around the nation to work towards strengthening and expanding the 4-H Youth Development program at the local, state, and national levels. National 4-H Conference is the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture's premier youth development opportunity to engage youth.

## ***National 4-H Conference delegates will:***

- **Participate in a round table topic of their choosing that will focus on key topics such as: leadership, agriculture, crime, and more**
- **Participate in professional workshops**
- **Meet with legislators from their State to discuss important issues relating to 4-H**
- **Have a chance to network with youth and adults from across the country**
- **Develop an action plan that will be put to use in their own communities**

For additional information, visit [go.wisc.edu/NationalConf](https://go.wisc.edu/NationalConf).





# SPACE CAMP

**GRADES 6-8**

**APRIL 18-22, 2024**

**U.S. SPACE & ROCKET CENTER, HUNTSVILLE, AL**

Registration opens in [4HOnline](#) November 15, 2023.



Learn about and experience the different aspects of life as an astronaut, working for NASA, and exploring places beyond Earth! Youth get the opportunity to venture away from home to meet new friends, develop leadership and teamwork skills, and learn all about space.

**Experience the Pathfinder Program! A 3-day experience with activities including:**

- a simulated space mission
- a variety of space simulators
- building and launching your own model rocket
- on-site meals and sleeping habitats simulating a real space training experience
- learning about space exploration and astronaut life in guided museum tours
- a team quiz bowl at the end of camp

Visit [go.wisc.edu/SpaceCamp](https://go.wisc.edu/SpaceCamp) to learn more!



# 4-H Camp Counselor Job Descriptions

## **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:**

The 4-H Camp Counselors are a group of 4-H teens selected to assist in being responsible for campers during 4-H camp. As a result of participation, counselors will develop the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and aspirations needed for adult success. Counselors will also help create a positive camp experience for youth in Barron, Pierce, Polk, and St. Croix Counties. Reports to: 4-H Educator

## **Qualifications:**

Ability to work with minimal supervision and seek advice or assistance when needed, and  
Possess leadership abilities, responsibility skills and self-esteem, and  
Must maintain enthusiasm, sense of humor, patience, and self-control, and  
Displays appropriate behavior and understands what it takes to be a positive role model, and  
Possesses the strength and endurance required to maintain constant supervision of campers.

## **Requirements**

- Must currently be a freshman or older to apply.
- Must be a member in good standing, as determined by your county.
- Must be able to get transportation to meetings/trainings as needed.
- Must complete required pre-training assignments.
- Must attend virtual training on **Sunday, March 3 at 6:30-7:30 pm** AND in-person overnight training on April 5-6. Counselors are expected to notify the Extension Office if an absence is unavoidable.

## **Responsibilities:**

- Attend required pieces of training before camp. Market and promote 4-H camp
- Serve in a leadership and teaching role to other counselors
- Serve on committees or other groups to plan programs at camp
- Appropriately conduct yourself before, during, and after camp while serving as a role model to campers and peers
- Assist staff and other counselors with camp activities; work as a team to implement the activities
- Know and understand all safety guidelines, including emergency procedures, associated with the camp and program areas
- Follow and enforce camp rules
- Assure for safety of campers at all times including in cabins, sessions, and large group activities
- Be aware of child protection regulations and report any child abuse, sexual abuse, or neglect in accordance with university policy
- Identify and respond to camper behavior issues
- Ensure campers' health and hygiene, e.g., brushing teeth, eating meals, taking medication, etc.
- Promote camper participation during camp
- Lead and supervise campers in activities at camp including but not limited to songs, teambuilding challenges, group activities, challenges, etc.
- Teach and lead campers at workshops or during other components at camp (table setting, song leading, etc.)
- Mentor and give guidance to campers to encourage positive youth development and enhancement of life skills



# Counselor Definitions

Cabin counselors and activities counselors will all have the opportunity to work with and interact with campers, serve as leaders and positive role models, and ensure campers have a positive experience. Cabin counselors AND activities counselors assist in planning camp before the experience and help resource counselors with activities at camp.

## Activities Counselor

Interacts with and engages campers in a variety of ways including facilitating and creating daily activities and leading and organizing small and large group activities. Activities might include arts and crafts, nature activities, games, campfires, STEM, and more. Activities Counselors work with cabin teams, to help facilitate activities.

- Assist with specific group sessions as assigned
- Lead songs outside the dining hall as campers line up for meals, campfires, etc.
- Care for campers
- Keep Learning more
- Observe
- Plan, Do, Lead/Teach
- Take initiative, Step up, and do
- Make creative and constructive contributions
- Be a positive role model to campers and all counselors

## Cabin Counselor

Responsible for supervising campers, making sure campers get to and from all scheduled activities on time, participating in sessions, and actively participating in activities with campers.

- Be responsible for day-to-day cabin care.
- Lead songs outside the dining hall as campers line up for meals, campfires, etc.
- Care for campers
- Keep Learning more
- Observe
- Plan, Do, Lead/Teach
- Take initiative, Step up, and do
- Make creative and constructive contributions
- Be a positive role model to campers and all counselors

**Junior Directors:** The Junior Directors work closely with the Extension Staff to plan camp and pieces of training. They will also assist with developing the overall camp schedule and planning large group activities. They will work cooperatively with all Counselors and Adult Volunteers in developing and implementing a quality 4-H Camp where all youth will experience an opportunity to learn through appropriate leadership. Junior Directors will have additional time commitments determined based on their schedules.

- Help plan camp/trainings
- Ensure camp is running smoothly
- Care for campers
- Keep Learning more
- Observe
- Plan, Do, Lead/Teach
- Take initiative, Step up, and do
- Make creative and constructive contributions
- Be a positive role model to campers and all counselors

## Specific Counselor Basic Duties

1. Make sure at least one counselor is in your cabin with your campers at all times campers are present. Campers should not be in cabins unsupervised. This is when idle minds and hands become creative in making their own "fun" with horseplay, put-downs, foul language, and physical abuse. Exceptions, changing wet clothes between sessions, or by special approval of a nurse or other staff.
2. Counselors should know every camper's name in your cabin on the first day. Be able to identify the individual as one of their cabin campers by the second day.
3. Be sure each camper knows the exact location of the first aid station.
4. Look for illness or injury - don't make too much "fuss" about it.
5. Go with the ill or injured campers to the camp nurse, no matter how late or minor. Prompt treatment of "small troubles" will frequently avoid "big ones!"
6. Watch for homesickness and see that campers get active. A camper who participates in the activities is seldom homesick.
7. Go over the schedule each morning, noon, and evening to make sure your campers know when and where they are supposed to go.
8. Acquaint "your campers" with camp guidelines, rules, and traditions.
9. Be a worthy example in language, manners, dress, and ethics for your campers to follow.
10. Discourage negative discussions about individual personalities or shortcomings of others.
11. Safety is priority #1 at all times. Be alert to unsafe activities and take action.
12. Encourage consideration for the privacy of others, their equipment, and their property, and discourage borrowing even with consent.
13. Keep the cabin clean and belongings put in proper places. (Suitcases closed, valuables hidden, etc.)
14. Be fair and impartial in dealing with all campers. "Campers who need the most love and attention are often the least lovable."
15. You, as the counselor are responsible for all that happens in your cabin. Try to be a friend and a leader. Be firm in your authority and decisions, but try not to be "bossy." Start pretty strict. It is easier to loosen up later than to tighten up later!
16. Never attempt to manage the behavior of a camper by ridicule or physical punishment.
17. Remind campers about hygiene practices (showering, brushing teeth, washing hands before meals, changing clothes).
18. After or just before lights out each night, do a little discussion survey with your campers to find out what they did that day, how they enjoyed it, what learned, and any problems or suggestions they might have.
19. Enforce "quiet hours" between "lights out" and "rise and shine" and during rest periods by example and behavior management.
20. Set good examples by not using profanity or telling off-color jokes and stories. Use behavior management on campers who use abusive, disrespectful language.
21. Report all "incidences" to the 4-H Educator, or volunteer. Any incident where a camper had to be disciplined or should have been, where there was a disagreement, where blows were thrown or struck, any incident where a camper suffered significant mental or bodily harm or any other situation where in your judgment "it might be a good idea to tell the director about this" - do it!

# **Camp Counselor Application    Due: January 19**

**Must currently be in grades 9-12 to apply**

Send completed application for Barron, Pierce, Polk, and St. Croix County applicants to:

e-mail: [lindsay.spindler@wisc.edu](mailto:lindsay.spindler@wisc.edu) or mail to

Polk County Extension Office, 100 Polk Plaza, Suite G600, Balsam Lake, WI 54810

**or google forms: <https://go.wisc.edu/xrr3u3> \*Preferred**

Name	Current Age	Birth Date	Male	Female
Address		City		Zip
County	Club	Grade in School	Years in 4-H	
Cell Phone	T-shirt size ( <i>adult sizes</i> )			
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 non 4-H) which you have attended:			camper or counselor	
Camp	Year	Camper	Counselor	

**Training Dates:** We have 4 scheduled training for camp counselors, do you have any conflicts for the following dates, please X any dates you have a conflict (leave blank if you can attend)

Training Session 1 (Zoom): Connection and Planning: Sunday, March 3 at 6:30-7:30pm

In-person training weekend: Final planning, skits, songs, follow-up to policies, camp rules, letters, etc.:  
Friday, April 5, 6:00 pm - Saturday, April 6, 6:00 pm at Camp Kiwanis

## **Camp Activities**

Which of the following are you comfortable leading at camp? (Please check all that apply.)

<input type="checkbox"/> archery	<input type="checkbox"/> games & recreation
<input type="checkbox"/> arts & crafts	<input type="checkbox"/> music
<input type="checkbox"/> backpacking	<input type="checkbox"/> nature
<input type="checkbox"/> campfire programs	<input type="checkbox"/> nature activities (other than water)
<input type="checkbox"/> canoeing	<input type="checkbox"/> relay games
<input type="checkbox"/> drama activities	<input type="checkbox"/> science discovery activities
<input type="checkbox"/> fishing	<input type="checkbox"/> singing
<input type="checkbox"/> flag ceremonies	<input type="checkbox"/> swimming
<input type="checkbox"/> foods & nutrition	<input type="checkbox"/> other (describe)



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

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**Explain why you want to be a camp counselor.**

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

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**Please list the names, phone number, and e-mail of 2 references (one 4-H adult, and one non 4-H adult). These individuals may be contacted about your leadership potential as a camp counselor.**

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\_\_\_\_\_  
(Applicant signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date completed)

# PO-CROIX-BAR-PIER 4-H CAMP ADULT RECOMMENDATION

**\*\*Counselors, Please have 1 4-H adult, and 1 non 4-H adult reference complete this form (online preferred) – Must not be related to you}. Please use back if more space is needed.**

The following applicant \_\_\_\_\_ is applying to be a 4-H Camp Counselor. You have been identified as a person who could speak to their qualifications.

Please complete the following recommendation and return as directed below (If possible, please complete the form online at <https://go.wisc.edu/28zist>)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

In what capacity do you know this applicant? \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you known them? \_\_\_\_\_

Evaluate the Member	Excellent	Good	Growth Area	Unable to Evaluate
Ability to follow instructions				
Strong communication skills - makes others feel welcome/comfortable				
Demonstrates dependability				
Demonstrates enthusiasm and energy				
Responsible				
Demonstrates honesty and integrity				
Can take over and manage a situation if other leaders are not available				
Has worked with a wide range of youth				
Is able to lead a group of people				
Able to work with others				

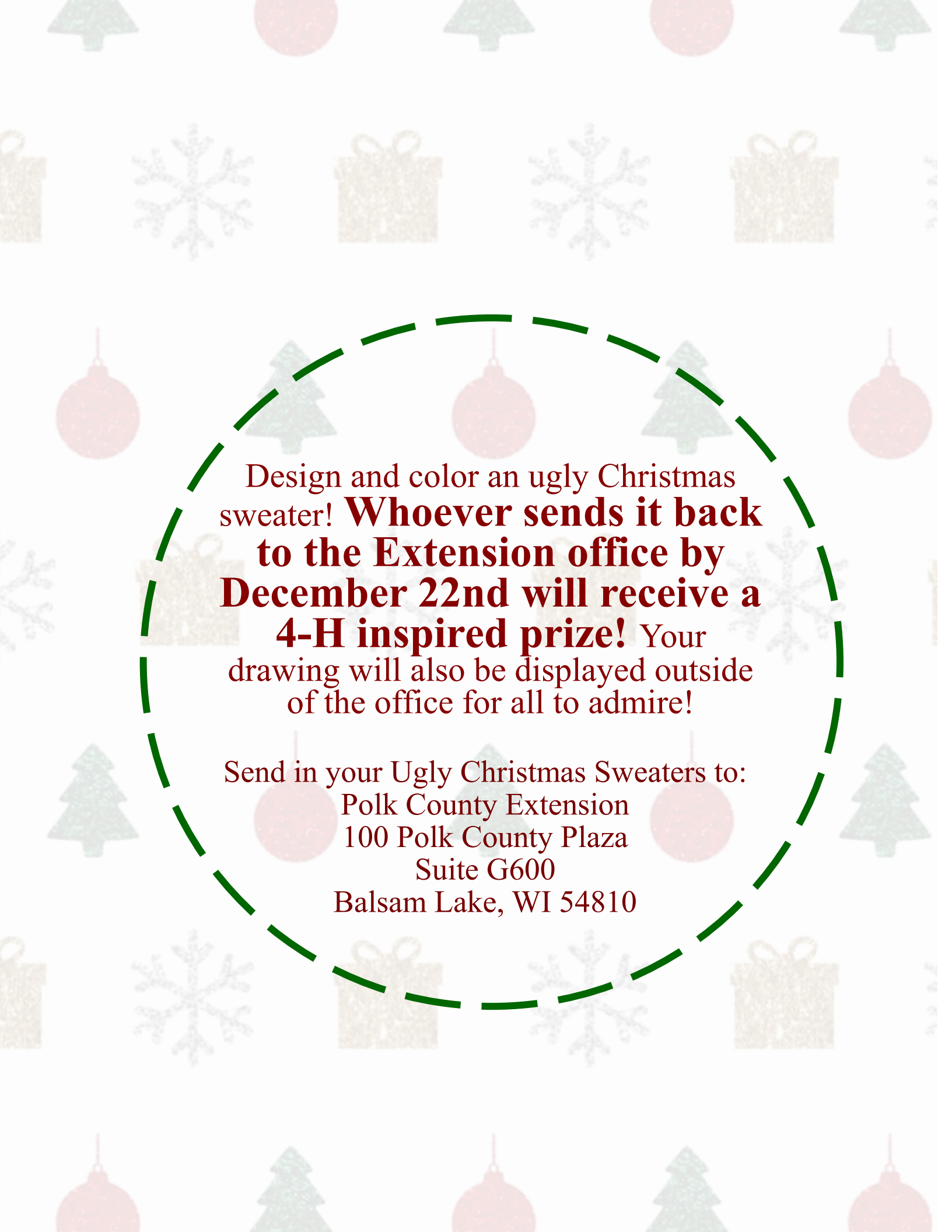
Is there any reason why this individual should not be responsible for youth at summer camp (overnight)?

What is this individual's greatest strength?

What are some areas for growth that this individual could work on?

Signature of Adult Recommending 4-H Youth: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Polk County Extension Office, 100 Polk Plaza, Suite G600, Balsam Lake, WI 54810**



Design and color an ugly Christmas sweater! **Whoever sends it back to the Extension office by December 22nd will receive a 4-H inspired prize!** Your drawing will also be displayed outside of the office for all to admire!

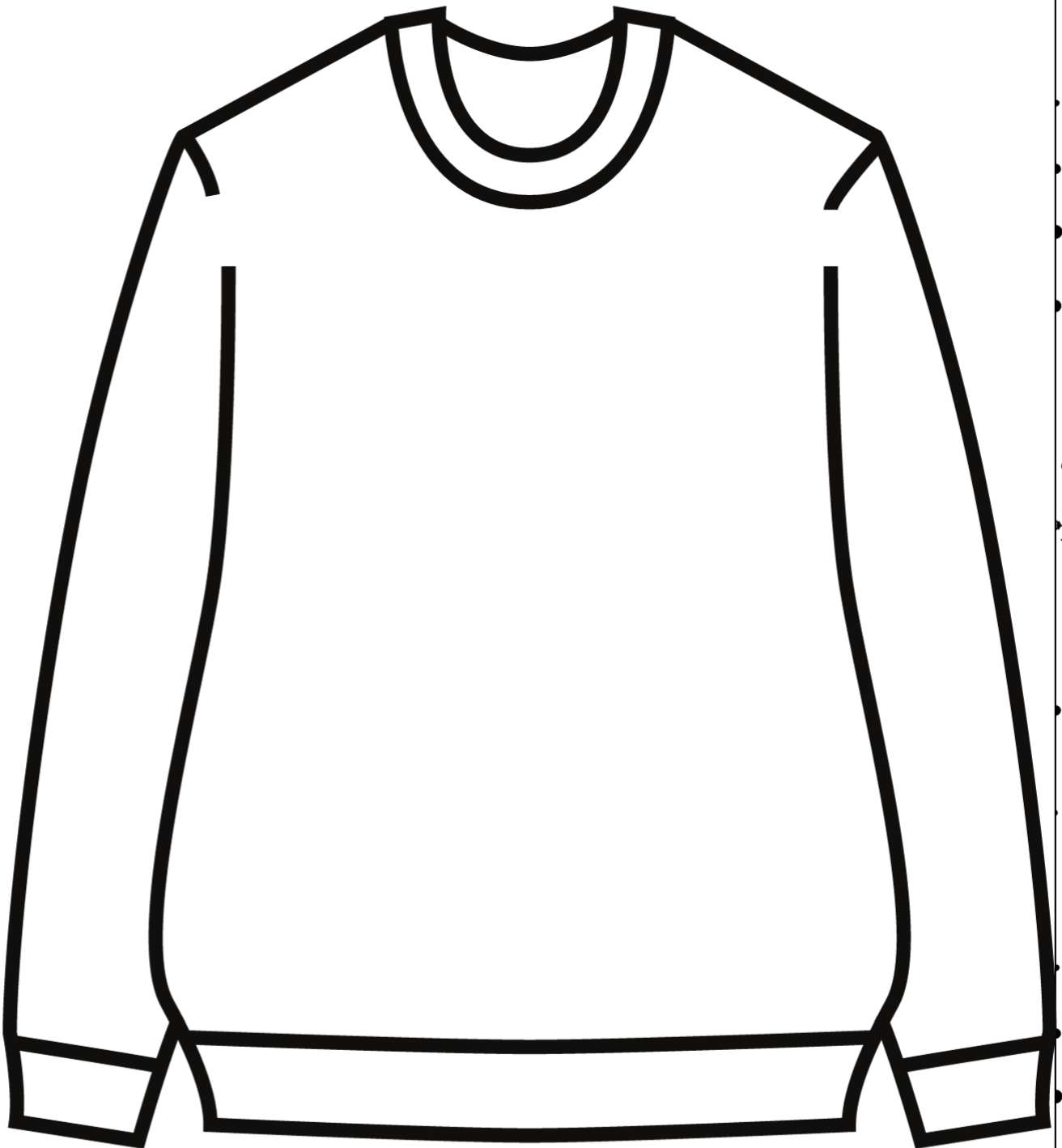
Send in your Ugly Christmas Sweaters to:  
Polk County Extension  
100 Polk County Plaza  
Suite G600  
Balsam Lake, WI 54810



Name:

4-H Club:

# Ugly Christmas Sweater



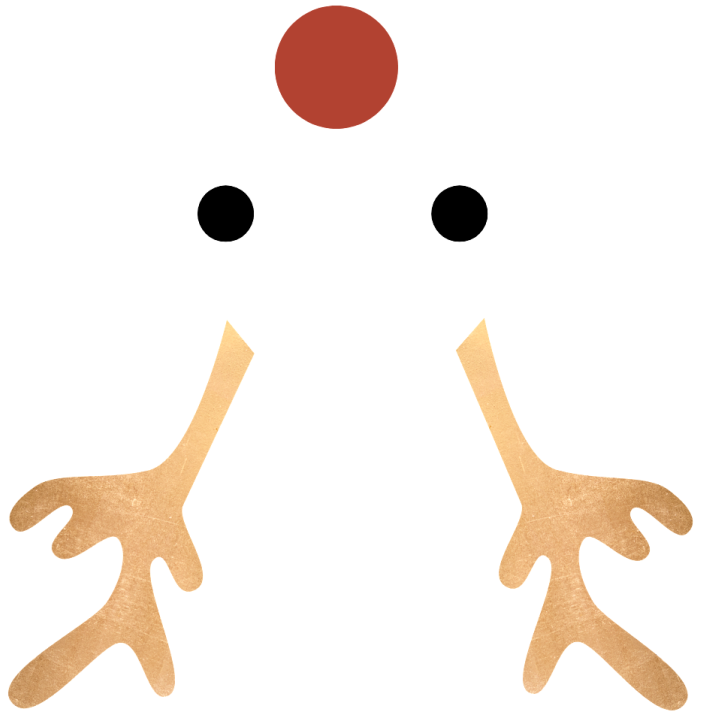
The University of Wisconsin-Extension provides Title IX requirements, which include affirmative action and equal opportunity in education, programming and employment for all qualified persons regardless of race, color, gender, creed, disability, religion, national origin, age, sexual orientation, pregnancy, 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).

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON  
POLK COUNTY  
**Extension**



# DECEMBER CLOVER CONNECTION



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100 Polk Plaza, Suite G600  
Balsam Lake, WI 54810  
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