

Clover Connection Newsletter

POLK COUNTY

February 2025



POLK COUNTY LEADERS FEDERATION MEETING

THE POLK COUNTY 4-H LEADERS FEDERATION BOARD OVERSEES THE 4-H PROGRAM, MAKING KEY DECISIONS ABOUT FINANCIAL RESOURCE ALLOCATION AND EDUCATIONAL DIRECTION. EACH CLUB CAN SEND ONE ADULT AND ONE YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE, ENSURING YOUTH HAVE AN EQUAL VOICE. THE BOARD MEETS SIX TIMES A YEAR.

MONDAY, MARCH 24
Polk County Justice Center
7:00 PM



Clover College

Saturday, February 22
St. Croix Falls High School

Join us for a fun-filled day for young adventurers in grades K-5, whether you're a 4-H pro or just curious! Participate in exciting workshops on various 4-H projects and leave with valuable knowledge and impressive finished projects for the fair!



Registration Now Open



Ambassador Meeting LOCATED AT THE JUSTICE CENTER

Monday, March 24 at 6pm
Monday, May 19 at 6pm



February

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
						1
2 ~YQCA ~Sheep Kick-Off Meeting	3 National Carrot Cake Day 	4	5 ~Registration Due for Needle Felting Workshop	6	7	8
9 ~Rabbit Kick-Off Meeting National Pizza Day 	10	11 ~Needle Felting Workshop	12	13	14 Happy Valentines Day 	15
16	17 National Random Acts of Kindness Day 	18	19 National Tug of War Day 	20 National Love your Pet Day 	21	22 ~Clover College
23 ~Goat Kick-Off Meeting ~Dairy Kick-Off Meeting	24 ~Desserts & Discussion ~Registration Due for Sewing Workshop	25 ~Needle Felting Workshop	26	27 National Chili Day 	28	

FEBRUARY

2: YQCA 12:30 JUSTICE CENTER
2: SHEEP KICK-OFF, 2:00PM AT THE JUSTICE CENTER
3: REGISTRATION DUE FOR NEEDLE FELTING WORKSHOP
9: RABBIT KICK-OFF, 2PM AT THE JUSTICE CENTER
11: NEEDLE FELTING WORKSHOP, 6PM AT THE FIRST PRES. CHURCH OF SCF
14: HAPPY VALENTINES DAY
22: CLOVER COLLEGE, ST. CROIX FALLS HIGH SCHOOL
23: GOAT KICK-OFF, 12:30 AT THE JUSTICE CENTER
23: DAIRY KICK-OFF, 2PM AT SCF HIGH SCHOOL
24: DESSERTS & DISCUSSION, 7PM JUSTICE CENTER
24: REGISTRATION DUE FOR SEWING WORKSHOP
25: NEEDLE FELTING WORKSHOP, 6PM AT THE FIRST PRES. CHURCH OF SCF

MARCH

2: SHEEP WORKSHOP, 2:00PM AT THE JUSTICE CNT.
4: HORSE PROJECT KICK-OFF, 5:30PM AT JOY LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CENTURIA
4: SEWING WORKSHOP, 6PM AT THE FIRST PRESB. CHURCH OF SCF
9: YQCA 12:30 JUSTICE CENTER
9: BEEF KICK-OFF, 2PM AT THE JUSTICE CENTER
16: YQCA, 12:30 AT THE JUSTICE CENTER
16: SWINE KICK-OFF, 2PM AT THE JUSTICE CENTER
24: AMBASSADOR MEETING
24: 4-H LEADERS FEDERATION MEETING

April

1: SEWING WORKSHOP, 6PM AT FIRST PRESB. CHURCH OF SCF
1: DOG PROJECT MEETING, 6-7PM AT THE JUSTICE CENTER
12: BARRON-POLK TALENT EXPO, TURTLE LAKE
22: SEWING WORKSHOP, 6PM AT THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SCF
26: SHEEP AND GOAT WEIGH-IN, 9AM AT THE POLK COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
27: DOG PROJECT KICK-OFF, 2PM-4PM AT THE POLK COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
29: SEWING WORKSHOP, 6PM AT THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SCF



LOOKING AHEAD TO SPRING & SUMMER EVENTS

- Dino Hunt for Shooting Sports, May 9 at 6pm at the Balsam Lake Rod & Gun Club
- Beef Hair Clinic, May 17 (more information to follow)
- Ambassador Meeting, May 19 at 6pm
- 4-H Leaders Fed. Meeting, May 19 at 7pm
- Train the Trainers (Horse Project) 5:30pm (more information to follow)
- Interstate Livestock Show, June 7th
- Northwestern Golf Classic, June 9th
- Pre-Fair Shoot for Shooting Sports, ALL AGES, Air Rifle, .22 Rifle, Shotgun (Trap) and muzzleloading, June 14 at 9am at the Balsam Lake Rod & Gun Club
- Pre-Fair Shoot Archery, June 14th, Explorers Only
- Summer Academy, June 16-19th
- 4-H Camp, June 25-27
- Pre-Fair Shoot Archery, Jr. & Sr. Only, June 28th from 9am-12 at the Osceola Rod & Gun Club

SAVE THE DATE



June 7, 2025
Polk County Fairgrounds



WANT YOUR CLUB TO SHINE IN THE NEXT CLOVER NEWSLETTER? IT'S A PIECE OF CAKE! JUST WHIP UP A FUN LITTLE ARTICLE ABOUT YOUR CLUB'S LATEST SHINDIG AND DON'T FORGET TO SNAP A PIC WITH ALL THE FABULOUS MEMBERS IN IT!

SHARE YOUR CLUB'S COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS BY EMAILING KERRY AT [KERRY.HILL2@WISC.EDU](mailto:kerry.hill2@wisc.edu)!

Kick-Off Dates

>>> SHEEP KICK-OFF

February 2nd starting at 12:30pm at the Justice Center



There will be a YQCA ahead of this meeting so keep an eye out for that in the coming newsletters.

>>> RABBIT KICK-OFF

February 9th starting at 2pm at the Justice Center.



We will be discussing a rabbit project Facebook page and looking into a hopping club.

>>> GOAT KICK-OFF

February 23rd starting at 12:30pm at the Justice Center



There will be a YQCA ahead of this meeting so keep an eye out for that in the coming newsletters.

>>> DAIRY KICK-OFF

February 23rd starting at 2pm located at the St Croix Falls high school.



>>> HORSE KICK-OFF

March 4th at 5:30pm located at Joy Lutheran Church in Centuria.



>>> BEEF KICK-OFF

March 9 at 2pm located at the Polk County Justice Center.



>>> SWINE KICK-OFF

March 16th at 2pm located at the Polk County Justice Center



TEXTILE ARTS WORKSHOPS

ARE YOU EAGER TO DISCOVER THE FUNDAMENTALS OF TEXTILES, SUCH AS SEWING AND KNITTING? YOUR SEARCH ENDS HERE! THE POLK COUNTY 4-H IS EXCITED TO PRESENT A TEXTILE WORKSHOP FOR EXPLORERS AND BEYOND! JOIN US TO LEARN A NEW SKILL WHILE HAVING A GREAT TIME!

PREREGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!

- >>> ~~Needle Felting: 2 Sessions = Tuesdays, February 11th and 25th from 6 pm to 7:30 at First Presb. of SCF, 719 Nevada St. Cost \$10. Please register by February 3rd for both sessions to Shirley at smillerfrey@gmail.com~~
- >>> Sewing (Basics plus) make a stuffed animal: 4 Sessions = Tuesdays, March 4, April 1st, April 22nd, April 29th from 6 pm to 7:30 at First Presb. of SCF, 719 Nevada St. Cost \$8. Please register by February 24th for all 4 sessions to Shirley at smillerfrey@gmail.com

Class Full!

ROBOTICS PROJECT

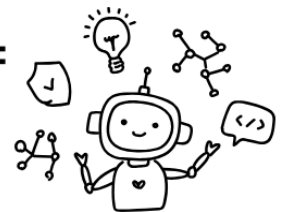
Please register youth for the Robotics program using the enclosed form

>>> EV3 WORKSHOPS

Thursdays, February 6th, 20th, 27th, & March 6th 6:30 pm - 8 at First Presb. Church, 719 Nevada St., SCF.

>>> SPHERO BALL AND EV3 WORKSHOPS:

Thursdays from 6:30 pm to 8, April 10th, May 8th. Saturdays from 1 - 3 pm June 7th, June 28th at First Presb. Church of SCF.



Robotics Pre-Fair RunOff is tentatively planned for Saturday, July 12th from 12:30 - 5 pm.

Orientation is necessary for everyone signed up for the project. Please contact Shirley for questions, smillerfrey@gmail.com



In-Person Trainings at the Polk County Justice Center

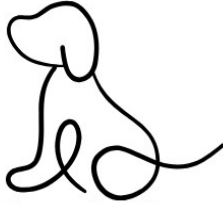
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2ND	12:30PM
SUNDAY, MARCH 9TH	12:30PM
SUNDAY, MARCH 16TH	12:30PM

Dog Project!

The 4-H dog project will be having a meeting on Tuesday, April 1st from 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. We will be going over what is changing this year and handing out the paperwork for class registration and vaccinations.

We will have our Kick-off on Sunday, April 27 from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the Polk County Fairgrounds.

We will be setting up the building for obedience classes, collecting class registration and vaccination forms, have prizes and refreshments. Please do not bring your dog to this event.



Obedience classes will start on Tuesday evening, May 6th. Time TBD

DON'T MISS THIS CHANCE TO JOIN 4-H ARTBEAT!



REGISTRATION OPEN



WHAT	WHEN	WHERE	COST
4-H members in grades 3-5 can explore visual arts, drama, music, and STEAM through hands-on activities	March 15-16, 2025	Upham Woods Outdoor Learning Center	\$125 for Youth Members, \$75 for Adult Volunteers





Positive Youth Development Institute
DIVISION OF EXTENSION
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

[LEARN MORE](#)

Spare-no-expense whites exchange



Questions?

Contact: Rayannon Lundgren
lundgrenrayannon@gmail.com
or
715-566-0088

How it works:

If you are bringing whites, please label them by size. We will have tables for you to lay your whites out on. If you are just there looking for a pair, grab a pair or a few! It's all free and everyone is welcome to participate! (please note that if you are trying to get rid of your white and there are still pairs left over, you need to take them back home with you.)

When?

Feb 23
@ SCF High School
(During the dairy kick off Meeting!)

Do you have old show whites that don't fit or are just wasting space?
Or
Did your child just hit a growth spurt and is searching for a new size?

In both scenarios, this event is made for you!

WHO: 4-H MEMBERS (GRADES 3-5), PARENTS, AND LEADERS

WHAT: EXPLORE VISUAL ARTS, DRAMA, MUSIC, AND STEM WITH AMAZING ADULT VOLUNTEERS

WHERE: UPHAM WOODS OUTDOOR LEARNING CENTER

WHEN: MARCH 15-16

COST: \$125 FOR YOUTH MEMBERS, \$75 FOR ADULT VOLUNTEERS

COME CREATE, LEARN, AND HAVE FUN!

REGISTER NOW:

[HTTPS://4H.EXTENSION.WISC.EDU/.../STATEWIDE.../ART-BEAT/](https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/.../STATEWIDE.../ART-BEAT/)

Horse Project

During the kick-off meeting we will be providing a safety clinic, declaration and project agreement paperwork, horse camp updates, and upcoming clinic schedules will be provided.

REMINDER!

May 21st, Train the Trainers, Instructor Zach Hedberg. Youth Leaders and Clinicians 5:30-8:30pm, Location TBD

Shooting Sports Dino Hunt

May 9th 6pm-8pm
Balsam Lake Rod & Gun Club

Because dinosaurs are such a terrible threat to the agriculture industry in Polk County we are offering all Polk County 4-H'ers ages eight (Explorers) to 12, and do not have a Hunter's Safety Certificate, the opportunity to participate in Polk County's 4-H Shooting Sports Dinosaur Hunt.

The 4-H Shooting Sports Program will supply the B.B. guns and ammunition for this event. There will also be an Archery Event. If you have questions about the Dinosaur Hunt, please call Chad & Stacey Lutsey at chad.lutsey@gmail.com or by phone at 715-541-4241



VIRTUAL PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP

Join us for a workshop series designed to advance your photography skills! Youth will learn and practice editing, setting up a photo, and elements of photography. We will be having a virtual discussion and showcase of photos taken during our time together.

To register and for more info:
<https://go.wisc.edu/6ubc8s>

Questions? Email lindsay.spindler@wisc.edu

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THERE'S STILL TIME TO SIGN-UP TO VOLUNTEER!

WE ARE STILL LOOING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO HELP WITH CLOVER COLLEGE! ADULT AND YOUTH, GRADES 8TH AND UP ARE WELCOME. POSITIONS INCLUDE, CLASSROOM HELPERS, HALL MONITORS, AND GENERAL HELP. LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED!

WHEN: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22 (VOLUNTEERS WOULD REPORT BY 8AM UNTIL 2:30PM)

WHERE: ST CROIX FALLS HIGH SCHOOL

Sign Up on <https://forms.gle/ZHgxTvnKCHqzLxYXA>



Registration open!

Talent Expo Barron-Polk County

musical piano video dance speaking instrumental
drama speech poetry
demonstrations interpretive reading

Location: Turtle Lake HS
Time: 9AM-1PM

April 12th

Event Information: barron.extension.wisc.edu/4h/4harts/
Registration: wi.4honline.com (sign in, click events)
Registration Deadline: March 15, 2025
Registration in multiple categories encouraged (groups (large or small), duets, solos)



AgSource
Cooperative Services
A subsidiary of Cooperative Resources International

DHIA Polk-Burnett Scholarship

The AgSource DHIA Foundation is offering scholarships for students who are either enrolled in or planning to pursue post-secondary education. Each scholarship recipient will receive a designated amount in financial support. To be eligible, applicants must have a family that resides in Polk or Burnett Counties or must be a current or former member of the Polk-Burnett DHI AgSource.

Preference may be granted to students majoring in agriculture-related fields and those from farming families. Scholarship funds will be disbursed only after the student has successfully completed one semester of post-high school education and has submitted a transcript indicating this completion. Applicants may either be entering or currently enrolled in post-secondary education programs.

Applications must be turned into the Extension office by APRIL 4th

Applications can be found on our website, <https://polk.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-youth-development/forms-and-applications/> or by following the QR Code.



Wisconsin Rural Opportunities Foundation, Inc Premier Scholarship

The Wisconsin Rural Opportunities Foundation (WROF), Inc. is delighted to announce the 2025-2026 WROF, Inc. Premier Scholarship Awards Program! The WROF, Inc. will present five \$3,000 scholarships to five rural Wisconsin high school seniors pursuing post-secondary education in Wisconsin with plans to return to rural Wisconsin upon graduation. **The application will be available on this webpage from Monday, January 6, 2025, until 11:59 pm on Friday, March 7, 2025.**

The award recipients will be selected by an ad-hoc committee of volunteers of the WROF, Inc. The award will support post-secondary tuition and educational expenses in Wisconsin schools.

All recipients will be required to attend an awards luncheon with the WROF, Inc Board of Directors on Wednesday, August 13, 2025 at noon in Madison, Wisconsin to receive your scholarship check.

Applications can be found on, <https://www.wrof.org/scholarships/wrof-premier-scholarship-application/> or by following the QR Code



YQCA Scholarship Program

YQCA is excited to announce the 2025 Scholarship Program available to high school seniors and students enrolled in a 2-4 year university or certification program. In order to be considered for this scholarship, you must be a high school senior up to 21 year of age and In order to be considered for this scholarship, you must

- Be a high school senior or a high school graduate up to 21 years of age
- Have an active YQCA certification at the time of application (2025).
- Have had active YQCA certification the previous two years (2023, 2024).

Applications open January 1, 2025 and close February 17, 2025.

Applications can be found on, <https://yqcaprogram.org/local/scholarship-program.php> or by following the QR Code



January Highlights



The Forest View 4-H Club hosted a fun, interactive Project Day, where 21 talented kids showcased their hard work through creative demonstrations.

From food prep to woodworking, informational posters to rabbit care, and even a modern take on butter churning, there was something for everyone to enjoy. It was a fantastic day of learning, sharing, and celebrating the many talents of our 4-H members!



Cloverbuds and Explorers from the Bone Lake Beavers 4-H Club got crafty and built some fabulous birdhouses!





The Pleasant Lake 4-H club kicked off the new year with a bang at the Amery Hockey rink, and after a meeting, they laced up their skates and hit the ice for some frosty fun!



The Deronda Diplomats kicked off the new year with an epic game night bash right after their January Meeting! Fun levels: off the charts!



The Pleasant Lake 4-H Club turned up the fun meter with some cozy indoor shenanigans, all while snapping away at a hands-on photography extravaganza at the Oak Forest Retreat Center!



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Balsam Lake, WI 54810
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Forever

NEWSLETTER

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UW-MADISON EXTENSION