

# Cloverline

4-H is a **community** of **young people** across **America** who are learning **leadership**, **citizenship**, and **life skills**.

march 2025

## in this issue >>>

- » Youth Ambassador Meeting
- » Leadership Retreat
- » Leaders Board Meeting
- » Clover College
- » Upcoming Opportunities
- » Volunteer Section
- » 2025 Summer Camp
- » Animal Sciences
- » 2025 Important Dates  
...and much more!

## The Endless Blue

I was asked to discuss this with a group of Ho Chunk youth, but our program keeps getting cancelled by the weather. So let's talk about Tik Tok, or really, media addiction. No one is immune to it, myself included. Understanding the marketing and nuances of algorithms also does little to deter most to the charm of blue light. In fact, I found myself missing my algorithm, like an old friend. Something that took time and effort to build.

Seeking out another method felt foreign because it was like starting over. Sounds a little ridiculous, doesn't it? However, if you have a kid who loves youtube or Tik Tok or whatever it is these days they are drawn to, try your best to not dismiss their interest as something trivial or trashy. Because like an old Netflix show in the background, these have grown to be a source of comfort for youth.

With any addiction, simply removing the source cold-turkey can work, however, if you don't take care of the specific need, then you won't have a high chance of succeeding. Is your youth needing connection, inspiration, or stimulation? What other ways can they fill those needs without the other source? Take care of the need or root of the issue and that will help you restore balance.

And with everything we consume or do, finding a healthy balance is key. Maybe you don't have to remove the source if it isn't detrimental to their ability to enjoy life away from screens, or if it doesn't affect schoolwork or behavior. Regardless, I hope you and your family find some time to breathe, sit in some sun, and close your eyes.

Put away the blue screen, and see the blue skies – take in some Spring!



*Emily A Crook*

Emily Crook  
Positive Youth Development Educator  
La Crosse County Extension

# volunteer section >>>

## Leaders Board Meeting

**Date:** Thursday, March 13th, 2025  
**Time:** 6:45 p.m. (Open Forum)  
7:00pm (meeting)  
**Location:** Hamilton Town Hall (N5105  
Leonard St N, West Salem)

We still are in need of two board positions, please reach out to Emily Crook at [emily.crook@wisc.edu](mailto:emily.crook@wisc.edu) or 608.785.9761 if you have a few hours per month to step in and help!

## youth leadership

### Ambassador Meeting

**Date:** Sunday, March 23rd, 2025  
**Time:** 6:00-7:00pm  
**Location:** La Crosse County Admin Center  
(212 6th St N, La Crosse)

We'll be working on some suggested projects, committee updates, summer plans and more!

## Leadership Retreat

**Date:** Saturday, March 22nd, 2025  
**Time:** 9:00am - 1:00pm  
**Location:** Klos Community Room, Hazel Brown Leicht Memorial Library (702 Industrial Dr, West Salem)

RSVP: By Monday, March 17th - <https://tinyurl.com/LaX4HLeadershipRetreat>

Bring your club officers and volunteers and let's learn, collaborate, and revitalize your energy around club programming, goals, and tasks. Officers will get help learning their roles, volunteers will get resources for typical club dynamics: attendance, sustainability, energy. Both groups will spend some time together and separated a bit for epic brainstorming action. Lunch is provided!

## Clover College ReCap

We are so glad you joined us for Clover College – it was a fantastic day! Now that you had a moment to reflect, please tell us what your 4-Hers thought. Here's a link to the survey: <https://tinyurl.com/4H2025CloverCollegeFeedback>

A HUGE thank you to all the instructors and helpers for the day, Bangor Elementary for allowing us to use their amazing school for the day, and everyone who participated!

## save the date!

### Kickball Tournament!

**Date:** Saturday, May 30  
**Time:** 9:00am – 1:00pm?  
(depends on how many teams!)  
**Location:** June Dairy Days  
West Salem Village Park

Assemble your team of 8-10 players, can't find enough? That's okay, we'll throw some stragglers together. Grades 3+ please, do not have to be 4-H members, but must adhere to the behavior expectations. Sign up will be in the April Cloverline!

## animal sciences

### Goat Project Meeting

**Date:** Sunday, March 30th  
**Time:** 3:00pm  
**Location:** Halfway Creek Lutheran Church,  
Holmen WI 54636

### Dog Project Workshop

**Date:** Sunday, March 23rd  
**Time:** 12:00pm-3:00pm  
**Location:** Happy Trails Training Center  
in West Salem

Obedience and Rally workshop, come with your dogs! :)

### Pork Producers Annual Meeting

**Date:** Monday, March 3rd  
**Location:** Hunters Last Chance  
(140 Leonard St S, West Salem)  
**Time:** 6:00pm  
**Cost:** \$5/Family

Food and prizes provided – this counts as a YQCA Education credit!

No RSVP necessary, but call Mike Gilster at 608-790-1261 if you have any questions.

### Drill Team Bowling Kickoff Night

**Date:** Monday, March 17th  
**Time:** 5:30pm  
**Where:** Features West Salem Bowling, Pizza, & Short Meeting. Last Chance to commit to Drill Team before practices start on the 24th.

## 2025 YQCA

**What:** Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) Training

**Who:** Swine Livestock Auction Participants (required), Livestock Auction participants (optional, encouraged!)

**How: ONLINE:** <https://yqcaprogram.org>

**Cost:** \$12 (you can request \$3 reimbursement from the Leader's Association with a completed certificate!)

When you complete your training, be sure to save a copy of your completion certificate and:

- Email it to [lacroseyouthlivestock@gmail.com](mailto:lacroseyouthlivestock@gmail.com) to meet your requirement for fair
- Email it to [lacrosecounty4h@lacrosecounty.org](mailto:lacrosecounty4h@lacrosecounty.org) IF you want \$3 reimbursed.

### Horse Bowl Team!

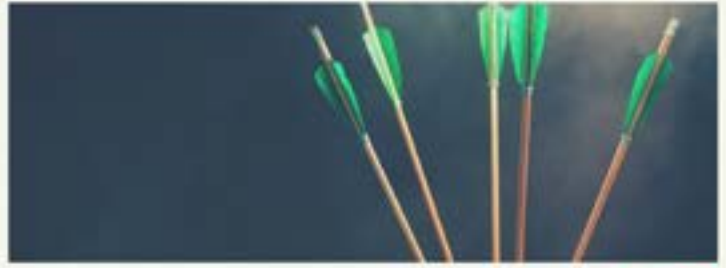
Have an interest in competing in horse trivia? You don't have to be an expert or have a horse. We need 2-3 more youth, grades 3-5, who are willing to join the team. Is this you?

Reach out to Elisabeth Smith at [smithelisabeth10@gmail.com](mailto:smithelisabeth10@gmail.com) or 507-961-8207 or Nancy Wakefield at 608-780-6248. First meeting is coming soon so don't delay, reach out today!

### Drill Team First on Foot Practice

**Date:** Monday, March 24th  
**Time:** 5:30pm  
**Where:** Hamilton Town Hall (Old Building)  
N5105 Leonard St N, West Salem





# La Crosse County 4-H ARCHERY INVITATIONAL

2025

Participants do not have to be 4-H members, nor do they have to live in La Crosse County. For youth that participated in the annual Archery & Pellet Gun Program in January through March, participation in this separate invitational is free. For all other participants, there is a \$10 fee.

For More Information, and to register, visit: [tinyurl.com/4H2025ArcheryInvit](http://tinyurl.com/4H2025ArcheryInvit)



Or scan the QR code!

**SATURDAY, APRIL 5TH** : Please contact the Extension La Crosse County office with questions at:  
 .....  
**AT ARCHERY COUNTRY** : [LaCrosseCounty4H@lacrossecounty.org](mailto:LaCrosseCounty4H@lacrossecounty.org) or 608-785-9593



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.

# REMEMBER TO UPDATE YOUR PROJECTS IN 4HONLINE BEFORE APRIL 1ST IN ORDER TO SHOW IN THOSE CATEGORIES AT THE FAIR THIS YEAR!!

Pick your projects in 4-HOnline to ensure you can exhibit in those departments come fair enrollment in June. Remind anyone at your club or project meetings if they haven't re-enrolled yet (they aren't seeing this unless they visit the website) to get it done!

## shooting sports >>>

### Archery and Pellet Gun Program

\*\*\* Registration is closed this is just a reminder for those who are participating \*\*\*

**When:** Saturdays: March 1st & 15th, 2025

**Time:** 8:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m., or 10:00 a.m.

**Where:** Archery Country (1231 Oak Forest Dr., Onalaska, WI 54650)

### Holmen Archery Program:

Youth will learn safety and shooting basics with support from trained program leaders. The experienced archer will also have the opportunity to refine their skills, too. Participants will practice in a fun, engaging way with the opportunity to compete in some friendly competitions. In addition, participation in this program will help youth fulfill the safety session requirements needed to compete in the La Crosse Interstate Fair Archery Tournament. Youth do not need to bring their own equipment for the Holmen Archery Program. All needed equipment is available for use.

For a copy of the registration form, please visit: <https://tinyurl.com/rnh7ymdf>. Registrations are due by Thursday, March 7th, 2025 by 4:30pm. Please direct any questions to the Extension Office at 608-785-9593. The Monday sessions will be offered at 5:00 pm and 6:00 pm. We will offer the Sunday sessions at 8 am, 9 am, and 10 am.

These sessions will all be offered INDOORS at Arrows in the Square.

- Monday, April 21
- Sunday, May 4
- Monday, May 5
- Monday, May 12
- Sunday, May 18
- Monday, May 19

### Swag!

#### NEW COLORS AND ITEMS ADDED!!

La Crosse County 4-H Shooting Sports program is offering merchandise once again!

This link is where you go: [4hshootingsports.com](http://4hshootingsports.com)

Share it with family and friends – it makes great holiday, graduation and birthday gifts!



A graphic featuring two wooden planks stacked vertically, each with two screws. The top plank says "SUMMER" and the bottom plank says "CAMP" in large, white, sans-serif capital letters. The background is a dark teal color with several white, fluffy clouds scattered around the sign.

# SUMMER

# CAMP

**Dates:** Wed. July 30 – Fri. Aug 1, 2025

**Location:** Upham Woods, Wisconsin Dells

**Who:** Grades 3-8

**Cost:** \$180 for community members, \$90 for 4-H members

Registration Opens **MARCH 17:**

- **for campers:** (Opens March 17th, closes June 1st)

<https://tinyurl.com/4-H2025Area13SummerCamp>

- **for Counselors (Grades 9+, 18-20):** Open Now! Deadline May 1st

<https://tinyurl.com/2025CampCounselorApp>

- **Chaperones (Adults 21+):** Open Now! Deadline May 1st

<https://tinyurl.com/2025CampChaperoneApp>

- **Chaperones will receive one youth's fee waived!**

The first 100 campers to sign up and make payment by June 1st, are guaranteed a spot at camp. Those who do not pay by June 1st are subjected to moving down the list. After June 1st, we start moving any wait-listed youth into spots!





# American Spirit

## Registration Opens - NOV 10, 2024 in 4-H Online!

**When:** June 20-29, 2025

**Who:** Youth in grades 8-10

**Cost:** Approx \$2,900

La Crosse 4-H Leaders Association offers a hefty scholarship for this – ask Emily for more information.

Experience history & heritage by immersing in a 10-day bus journey to the East Coast and Canada – Youth-led content throughout the experience – Increase knowledge of American history while experiencing where it occurred – Dynamic exposure to diverse cultural experiences and perspectives of the foundation of our nation. For more information visit: <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/statewide-events-and-opportunities/american-spirit-east/>

# march 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
						1 Archery & Pellet Gun Program
2	3 Pork Producers Annual Meeting	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 Leaders Board Meeting	14	15 Archery & Pellet Gun Program
16	17 Summer Camp Registration Opens  Drill Team Kick Off	18	19	20	21	22 Dog Project Workshop
23 Ambassador Meeting	24 Drill Team First Practice	28	26	27 Archery Programs Registrations Close	28	29
30 Goat Project Meeting	31					

**COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE**

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The Cloverline can be found in color and with hyperlinks online at <https://lacrosse.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-youth-development/cloverline-newsletter/>

We thank all who volunteer their time and talents to contribute to this newsletter.