



# Portage County 4-H Courier

## Monthly Periodical



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON  
PORTAGE COUNTY

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April 2020

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### Letter From the President

Hello to my 4-H Family,

First of all, I hope this courier finds everyone healthy! As I sat at my kitchen table, I contemplated what to even write in this unprecedented time we are going through. What words of wisdom or hope can I offer? First of all, I hope that everyone is taking the best precautions possible to stay healthy as we navigate our daily lives and try to find a new “normal” throughout the many unknowns. We are all learning that we need to be flexible and have to adjust. As we are spending more time at home with our families let’s take the time to reconnect with each other. While we have to maintain our social distancing, let’s get creative on how to connect with each other. Let’s take some time to work on fair projects and keep our kids and minds active in a positive way.

There have been so many 4-H opportunities and activities that have to be postponed. It’s been disappointing, but necessary. As 4-Hers we are resilient and need to utilize our 4-H Pledge; Head-for thinking, planning and reasoning, Heart-for kindness and truth, Hands-to be helpful, skillful and useful, Health-for strength to enjoy life, resist disease and be more efficient. The storms of 2019 that ravaged our community and now 2020’s Coronavirus cannot take away the power of our community spirit and support of each other. We are all in this together! Thank you to all who are serving on the frontlines! We cannot say thank you enough!

Stay tuned to your emails for further 4-H info. As we all know the fluidity of COVID-19 is ever changing. The extension staff will continue to bring you the most updated information as they get it. Please don’t hesitate to reach out to Connie Creighton (4-H youth development agent), Lisa Henriksen (4-H staff support member) or myself with questions or comments.

“In every day there are 1,440 minutes. That means we have 1,440 daily opportunities to make a positive impact.”  
~Les Brown Wishing continued good health to all!

Debra Helbach President of the Portage County 4-H Leaders Association

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To All 4-H Families:

Due to the COVID-19 virus outbreak, all staff in the Portage County Extension office are now working remotely. Our office will not be accessible to us or the public, however, staff can still be reached through phone and email. Connie's work phone is being forwarded to her mobile phone number.

While we might not be able to be physically present, we are working on creative ways to continue 4-H programming and enable communication without jeopardizing anyone's health and safety.

**Just a reminder, the University of Madison and the Division of Extension is requiring all 4-H clubs, projects, and activity meetings be cancelled or postponed until further notice.** We have been given the directive to cancel all in-person programming for April—May 15th, but things are changing daily and the Dean is taking about cancelling more activities until the end of June.

We realize this will be disappointing as our 4-H participants will miss out on opportunities, but at this time we need to follow the guidance of experts to keep our 4-H members, families, staff and everyone else safe.

The Portage County 4-H Office will continue to share updates as they become available. Please keep an eye on your email and our website for updates. If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to reach out to Connie or Lisa.

Connie: [Connie.creighton@wisc.edu](mailto:Connie.creighton@wisc.edu) | 715-346-1320

Lisa: [Lisa.henriksen@wisc.edu](mailto:Lisa.henriksen@wisc.edu) | 715-346-1462

# MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

**All in-person 4-H events for April & May have been cancelled or postponed. Please stay tuned to your email and future newsletters as some of these events may be rescheduled.**

## APRIL

- 1 Last Day for Project Changes in 4-H Online
- 14 Managerial Agreements Due to the Extension Office (can be emailed to [lisa.henriksen@wisc.edu](mailto:lisa.henriksen@wisc.edu) or [connie.creighton@wisc.edu](mailto:connie.creighton@wisc.edu))
- 15 Small Ruminant Webinar—**Will be held online via Zoom**
- 20 4-H Leaders Board Meeting, 6:30 PM—**Will be held online via Zoom**
- 27 Market Animal Committee Meeting, 6:00 PM—**Will be held online via Zoom**
- 1-30 YQCA coupons available from Amherst & Rosholt MAC's—Month of April ONLY!

zoom

Join a Meeting

## MAY

- 4 Deadline for Submitting Tagged Swine Photos
- 18 4-H Leaders Association Meeting, 6:30 PM—**Will be held online via Zoom**
- 18 4-H Teen Leaders Association Meeting, 6:30 PM—**Will be held online via Zoom**
- 21 Market Animal Committee Meeting, 6:30 PM—**Will be held online via Zoom**
- 21 Market Animal Sales Promotion Meeting, 7:30PM—**Will be held online via Zoom**

*More information and Zoom meeting links will be emailed to individuals.*

### Lamb Weigh-On Update

The University of Wisconsin Division of Extension is **requiring** all 4-H Clubs and 4-H Groups that coordinate/lead livestock weigh-ins **to postpone or cancel** these activities effective immediately. **As a result the lamb weigh-in scheduled for May 4th at the Amherst Fairgrounds is cancelled.**

### Rosholt Pre-Fair Contests Update

As a result of the COVID-19 virus outbreak, **the Speaking and Demonstration Contests scheduled for April 25th and the Clothing Revue scheduled for May 4th have been cancelled.** We are hoping to reschedule these events closer to or at the Rosholt Fair. More information will be released as decisions are made.

### 4-H Educational Travel Opportunities Update

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 4-H State volunteer planning committee and staff have determined that several of the 4-H trips planned for this summer will be cancelled or postponed. At this time Space Camp, the American Spirit Trip, WI 4-H & Youth Conference, and the National 4-H Conference have been cancelled or postponed. Other trips may be added to this list as things are rapidly evolving. Notifications will be sent out to 4-H members as decisions are made.



# ANNOUNCEMENT



## 4H Summer Assistant

**Department:** UW Extension

**Deadline:** Open until filled.

**Job Type:** Part time, seasonal

**Hours per week:** 25 hours/week

**Salary Range** \$10.00/Hour

**Looking for a wonderful part-time opportunity during the summer? Portage County Extension is hiring for a 4-H Summer Assistant!**

What is a summary of this position?

The primary responsibility of the 4-H Summer Assistant is to assist the full-time 4-H Youth Development Agent in coordinating and teaching summer youth programs and to work closely with the Portage County UW-Extension staff involved with summer 4-H and youth activities.

The position works in the summer, typically starting in May or June and ending in September. The position works some evenings and weekends to attend meetings and events. Please feel free to pass this along to anyone who may be interested!

To apply please visit: <https://www.co.portage.wi.us/departments/human-resources-department>

## Plant Sale Fundraiser Update

The 4-H Office is currently seeking an exemption to still be able to hold the 4-H plant sale fundraiser. At this time we have not received an official decision. We will be sending out a notification to everyone via email once we receive guidance. If we do get approval, plant pick up is set for May 16th.



## Portage County Summer Camps—Cancelled

It is under the advisement from the Dean of Extension that we start cancelling large events in June. As a result, the Portage County Junior & Intermediate Camps that were scheduled in June have been cancelled.

## 2020 June Dairy Day Update

Due to the COVID-19 virus outbreak the 41st Annual June Dairy Day has been postponed. As of now, a rescheduled date has not been released. More information will be released as decisions are made.

## Portage County 4-H is coming to Facebook!

The 4-H office is starting a Portage County 4-H group on Facebook! Members can get program updates, share updates from their clubs and connect with other Portage County 4-Hers! Search "Portage County 4-H" to join our group or stay tuned to your email as invites will also be emailed.



# 2020 4-H AWARD & AMBASSADOR RESULTS

## Congratulations to our 4-Hers who won awards for 2020!

(Listed in Alphabetical Order by Last Name, Not Rank Order)

### 4-H Ambassador:

Juniper Rydberg

(Pictured Right)

**4-H Ambassador**



### Leader of Tomorrow Award:

Abigail Helbach

Josh Kolodziej



### Portage County 4-H Adult Ag Leader of the Year

Ted Lein & Dr. Barb Kasprovicz (pictured below)

### 4-H Youth Leadership in Agriculture Award

Candace Lein

(Pictured right)

### Key Award

Abigail Helbach

Josh Kolodziej

Zoe Zalewski



## LARGE ANIMAL SCIENCE

### **TAGGED SWINE PHOTOS**

**Swine must be identified by May 4th.**

Members must tag, photograph, and electronically submit two photos for each tagged hog  $\frac{3}{4}$  one photo of the entire animal and another photo of the animal showing its tag number. Include project member name with correlating ear tag.

***Photos must be submitted no later than May 4th to: [portageco.map@gmail.com](mailto:portageco.map@gmail.com)***

YOU WILL RECEIVE A CONFIRMATION E-MAIL AFTER PHOTOS ARE SUBMITTED. If you do not receive a confirmation e-mail shortly after submission, your photos were not received and you should submit them again.

### **2020 4-H Crowley Youth Dairy Awards**

The James W Crowley 4-H Dairy Leadership Award program provides recognition to youth who have excelled in their dairy project. County Award winners are eligible to compete for 15 state-wide awards. State winners will receive plaques and recognition at the Dairyland Youth Celebration at the 2020 Wisconsin State Fairgrounds. In addition, the top three youth in the state competition will each receive \$500 awards for continuing their dairy education. Eligibility: 1) Must be currently enrolled in the 4-H Dairy Project and have at least two previous years of membership in it. 2) Must be in 10th-12th grades as of January 1, 2020. 3) Should be an outstanding record of involvement and accomplishments in the 4-H Dairy Project.

Contact the Extension Office at 715-346-1462 or [lisa.henriksen@wisc.edu](mailto:lisa.henriksen@wisc.edu) for an application which is due by April 24th. A county winner will then be selected and forwarded to the state.

### **Managerial Agreements Due April 14th**

If the animal you are bringing to the Amherst or Rosholt Fair is not owned by you or a member of your immediate family, you **must** send a Managerial Agreement to the Extension office no later than April 14! Copies available at <https://portage.extension.wisc.edu/> (4-H Forms and Applications).



**DUE TO THE COVID-19 VIRUS OUTBREAK THE  
IN-PERSON SESSION OF YQCA HAS BEEN POSTPONED.**

**Exhibitors are encouraged to take the YQCA training online. The Amherst Fair Board and the Amherst & Rosholt Fair MAC's are offering to pay the \$9 YQCA certification fee to any exhibitor who is willing to register and take the online YQCA in the month of April ONLY! After April, exhibitors will be responsible for the full cost of \$12 for the YQCA certification.**

**PLEASE CONTACT TRACY GLODOWSKI AT 715-570-5175  
BY TEXT IF POSSIBLE FOR YOUR YQCA COUPON CODE.**

**WHAT IS YQCA?**

Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) is a national certification program available for youth that focuses on food safety, animal well-being and character awareness for youth ages 8 to 21 producing and/or showing pigs, beef cattle, dairy cattle, sheep, goats, market rabbits, and poultry. This interactive program replaces the (Meat Animal Quality Assurance) program.

**Who is YQCA Required for?**

**Rosholt Fair: All Beef, Sheep & Swine Exhibitors**

**Amherst Fair: All Swine and Turkey Exhibitors**

**State Fair: Anyone Showing Beef, Dairy, Goats, Poultry, Rabbits, Sheep and Swine**

Youth wishing to exhibit in the 2020 Wisconsin State Fair Junior Shows **must** provide his/her YQCA certification number when entering by the entry deadline. Youth who do not provide a YQCA certification number, or did not pass the YQCA modules for the current calendar year will not be eligible to participate in the 2020 Wisconsin State Fair Junior Shows.

To register for the online YQCA training go to [www.yqca.org](http://www.yqca.org). Online – Fee: \$12\*\*

**\*\*Only offered during the month of April (April 1 – April 30), YQCA will be offering a 25% discount on web-based trainings, making them \$9.**

- a. Those wishing to take part in the flash sale will need to purchase \$9 web-based training coupons from YQCA. **Coupons will be available for any exhibitor in the Amherst or Rosholt Fairs.**
- b. Coupons **MUST** be put towards a web-based training in the month of April. Exhibitors have until the end of May to complete the YQCA training once it is started.

## 4-H Club Reports

We started the meeting with doing a Valentine's Day project led by Addison. Then we went over the pledge and reports. We started talking about Old Business which included the holiday potluck, bell ringing for the Salvation Army, the 4H calendar meeting, award interviews, the sledding party, and the roller-skating party. We moved onto New Business which included project materials, setting dues (\$15), reviewing club bylaws and the club calendar, and talking about a donation to the St. Casimir Parish Winter Dinner. We also talked about getting a club t-shirt and what design to choose. Towards the end of the meeting we talked about doing a summer cookout at Trigs on May 30th. The cookout would start at 10 am and end at 4 pm. Shortly after the meeting was adjourned, we all played a "get-acquainted" game. Submitted by Lucy G.

### **Tomorrow River Voyagers Club Report— February 2020**

The February meeting of the Tomorrow River Voyagers 4-H club was called to order by Vice President Otto S. at 1:08 February 16, 2020 at the Jensen Center. 37 members were present. The American Flag and 4-H club salute were led by Sam, Sawyer and Natalie. The get to know you activity was telling things about our personalities using M&Ms. Our Sunshine Report was for Noah and Taylor. Our leader's report was reminding people about fair projects, our spring plant sale and reminding people to look in the 4-H couriers for new opportunities. Our old business consisted of discussing our club sledding day which got canceled, but the county one was not. The few families that attended said it was fun. We then discussed club t-shirts. We made a few last minute plans for our February activity at Hillside Manor. On Saturday April 4th our club is doing concessions for the Tomorrow River Variety Act-Club. The Snyder family is setting things up for that. After our March Meeting we are going to Clay Corners. Then we also need to make a decision by March 25th about the Brewers or Timber Rattlers Games. Our new business consisted of June Dairy Days. It is on the Grezenski Family Farms on 3964 County Road J North, Custer Wisconsin on June 20, 2020. Amherst Fair is July 16-19 this year. Aledea Schultz then demonstrated how to solve a rubix cube. Everyone was very impressed. The next meeting will be held on March 15, 2020 at 1:00 pm at the Jensen Center. Meeting adjourned at 1:29 Recorded by club secretary Taylor M. submitted by club reporter Colton V.

### **Casimir Booster Club Report— March 2020**

Casimir Boosters 4-H club March report We started this month's meeting off with the secretary's report and the treasurer's report. We then moved onto old business with included club t-shirts, club bylaws, project materials, looking over the 2020 calendar, the donation to the St. Casimir chicken dinner, and the Trigs cookout which will be on May 30th. After that, we talked about new business, which included the Place of Peace meal on April 16th, Bingo on March 28th, and the Plant sale. The due date for that is April 13th, which is also when our next meeting is. We have also set up a club Facebook page as another way for members and parents to keep in touch and stay informed about club activities. Also, April 1st is the deadline to make changes to the projects you have chosen. After we adjourned the meeting, we had two demonstrations. One was about honey and bee keeping and the other was about cake and cookie decorating. Submitted by Lucy G.



**Members of the Plover Clovers 4-H Club participating in Science Day activities.**



# Leader's Association Minutes



## Portage County 4-H Leaders Association - January 2020

The Portage County 4-H Leaders Association meeting of 1-20-20 was called to order by President, Debra Helbach at 6:38 pm in the Courthouse Annex. Pledges were recited and roll call was taken.

PRESENT: Marilyn Pederson (Carson Climbers), Debra Helbach and Karen Jastromski (Tomorrow River Voyagers) Kathy Glodowski (Nelsonville Zippy Zees), Candice Wolosek (Plover Clovers), Jan Miller (Rosholt Pioneers), Barb Kasprowicz (Almond Busy Bees), Betty Pionek and Pat Mrozinski (Casimer Boosters) and Connie Creighton, 4-H Youth Development Agent | ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: Fundraisers | MINUTES: Approved as presented | OFFICER REPORT: Treasurer's Report: Current Balances Checking: \$7313.01 Savings: \$3351.86 Secretary's Report: None

OLD BUSINESS: Roller Skating Party – Good turnout for event (80 people) | Awards and Ambassador Interviews – 8 youth were interviewed (1 ambassador and 7 Key Award candidates). Juniper Rydberg was selected as an ambassador. Key Award recipients will be Abigail Helbach, Zoe Zalewski and Josh Kolodziej. Leader of Tomorrow recipients will be Abigail Helbach and Josh Kolodziej. \$1400 payment for American Spirit must be made by February 2020. | Club Officer Training-December 5th- Could have had better attendance; only about 14 attended training. | Mandatory Club Charter Training/Expansion & Review Committee Mtg – All club charter training completed except for one club. Question was asked about qualifications and resources for club's new Cloverbud leader. Ideas for activities can be found in Cloverbud binder purchased from Ohio State University and Cloverbud activity sheets that are available in the 4-H office. Expansion and Review Committee meeting will be held March 9th before Leader Association meeting. | New Adult Leader Training- December 10th & January 16th – Good turnout; there will another VIP New Leader Training offered at a later date. | Plat Book – Rockford has contacted 4-H office. Do we plan to do publish a new plat book? Connie will find out more details for a future discussion. | Summer Camps – Both summer camps will be held at CWES in 2020. Intermediate camp, grades 4th through 8th, will be held June 5th to the 7th for Portage and Waupaca Counties. | Junior camp, Cloverbuds through 4th grade, will be held June 12th and 13th for Portage, Waupaca and Wood Counties. 4th graders may attend either camp. Camp counselors are needed. | Other: Fundraising – Discussion held about following ideas: Expand menu of Amherst Fair food stand, possible addition could be Kwik Trip pizza (they provide pizza ovens). We will need to talk to Candice; currently no food stand spot open at Rosholt Fair but fair board offered to allow us to sell corn on the cob; TDS (new Wi-Fi provider) is community supporter that we could approach about sponsoring events such as summer camps, youth development and leadership training; Pizza Ranch and Culver fundraisers; Stevens Point Area Retired Teacher Association (SPARTA) donation request for next year – we already received a \$250 grant for national trips this year; Amherst Lions Club grant -application due 1-31-20; Jensen Center opportunity to have fee waived for Awards program if we serve refreshments (baked goods and beverages) at the March 9th concert. We may keep all profits from sales. (see details under New Business)

NEW BUSINESS: 4-H Youth Leadership in Agriculture Award – Candace Lein was nominated and selected for award. | 4-H Ag Leader of the Year Award – No nominations received | Winter Camp – A two-night stay at the Lions Camp from January 31st to February 1st for youth grades 7 through 13. Cost per youth is \$75. Each county is required to sponsor a meal plus snacks. Connie will be making braised beef for lunch Saturday. Only 2 Portage County youth have signed up. A total of 24 teens and 7 adults, 6 female and 1 male, will be attending. | Family Winter Party – January 27th at Iverson from 6-8 PM. | Record Book Pages – All are available online. Some pages need revisions. | Fundraiser – Jensen Center - Concert starts at 7:00 PM. Between 50 and 150 people may attend event. Plan to set up at 5:30 PM. Debra Helbach has a key. There will be a 20-minute intermission at 7:45 PM. Recommendation made to accept donations instead of pricing sale items. Karen, Betty and Kathy volunteered to be on the planning committee. | Super Saturday – Connie described some nominal fee project training events that other counties have. Do we think there would be interest in doing something similar to this in our county? The following discussion followed: Where would it be held (Jensen Center, exhibit building, school)? When would it be held? Possibly a Saturday the end of March/April or an evening in June? How much manpower would it require? Maybe teens could teach with assistance from adults. Should we tie it to another workshop that we already have such as the cake workshop? Topic suggestions were photography, floral, cake decorating and scrapbooking. | Other: Plant Sale – Motion/second/passed to allow Jan Miller to make an executive decision about which plants to sell and the plant pricing for the upcoming plant sale. | Shooting Sports – A 12 hour 4-H leader training for certification as an archery leader will be held in Antigo. Registration deadline is February 2nd. Cost is \$52.00 for leader and \$26.00 for spouse. Motion/second/passed to pay \$52.00 registration fee plus \$10 for mileage for up to 5 people interested in attending the certification training. | Agent Report: New University of Madison policy for 4-H: Leaders can no longer sign contracts. The UW needs to sign all contracts. If an accident occurs during a 4-H event, an incident report must be filled out within 48 hours. More changes will be coming (parade policy, camp policy, etc.) Watch newsletter for updates. Next meeting Date – March 16, 2020 Meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m. Yours in 4-H, Marilyn Pederson, Secretary

## **POLICY OF NON-DISCRIMINATION**

Periodically, UW-Extension takes steps to assure that our partners know and understand our policy of nondiscrimination. This letter is to remind or notify you that the University of Wisconsin-Extension does not discriminate in the treatment of individuals, in admission or access to its programs and activities, in the provision of services, or in employment.

Further, UW-Extension, an institution receiving federal financial assistance through the U.S. Department of Agriculture, cannot participate with or partner with organizations that discriminate on the basis of any of the legally prohibited categories of discrimination, based on Civil Rights laws. Categories of prohibited discrimination include race, color, gender/sex, creed, disability, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, sexual orientation, pregnancy, marital or parental status, arrest or conviction record, or membership in the national guard, state defense force or any other reserve component of the military service.

Consistent with the Americans With Disabilities Act, persons who need materials in alternative format or other accommodations are encouraged to write or call the UW-Extension contact person for the specific program or call the main telephone number of the Portage County Extension Office as early as possible prior to the event so appropriate arrangements can be made. Requests are kept confidential.

Individuals who need special access due to hearing impairment may contact the Portage County Extension Office by calling the relay service for the hearing impaired by dialing 711.

**If you know of someone in the Portage County 4-H program who does not have access to internet or does not utilize email please let the 4-H office know and we can make other arrangements to get them 4-H program updates.**

## **EXTENSION STAFF**

JASON HAUSLER, AREA EXTENSION DIRECTOR

CONNIE CREIGHTON, 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AGENT

SHERRY DANIELS, FAMILY LIVING EDUCATOR

KEN SCHROEDER, AGRICULTURE AGENT

NATHAN SANDWICK, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENT

KELLY HAMMOND, FOODWISE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR

PENNY SCHMITT, NUTRITION EDUCATOR, FOODWISE

## **EXTENSION SUPPORT STAFF**

DENISE ROCHA, FAMILY LIVING / AGRICULTURE

LISA HENRIKSEN, 4-H / COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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WEBSITE: [HTTPS://PORTAGE.EXTENSION.WISC.EDU/](https://portage.extension.wisc.edu/)

## **4-H LEADERS ASSOCIATION**

PRESIDENT: DEBRA HELBACH 715-824-5565

VICE PRESIDENT: BETTY PIONEK 715-573-6380

SECRETARY: MARILYN PEDERSON 715-344-4489

TREASURER: JAN MILLER 715-592-4222

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