



THE COURIER

The Portage County 4-H's Bi-Monthly Newsletter



The Carson Climbers 4-H Club promoted National 4-H week by handing out cheese curds at Kennedy School!



Members of the Tomorrow River Voyagers celebrated 4-H week at school in Amherst!

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

I hope you all had a great 4-H year with lots of wonderful memories. As we look forward to the new year, we have many exciting, what I call, upgrades to our 4-H program. There was the very informative 4-H Family Kick-off that highlighted these changes. Be sure to check it out online if you missed it.

Specifically with the Adult's Leader Association, our changes are about making sure all Club and Project Leaders, and Teen Leaders feel welcome at our meeting. Remember you are all members of the Association. We want you to come with your ideas and concerns and important input on how you want our county's 4-H program to look. We do need members to step up and fill positions on the board. I promise this will not take up big amounts of your time and if we do not have volunteers willing to do this, as an Association we will struggle to do what you want us to do! I found being on the board made me more aware of opportunities for my kid's club.

Please be sure to sign up in time for the volunteer enrollment and general re-enrollment. There is a Volunteer Retreat on Oct. 26th. The Annual Leaders Banquet is Nov. 7th. Leaders are to bring a dessert to share for the event. The Awards Event will be Nov. 9th

Enjoy all the contests, workshops and other fun events coming up.

Christine Keck

Adult Leaders Association President

<http://portage.extension.wisc.edu>
715-346-1320



Portage County Extension Office
1462 Strongs Avenue, Stevens Point, WI 54481

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

OCTOBER

- 21- Cloverbud Halloween Craft Night, 6:00-7:00pm. Annex Building (K-2nd Grade)
- 23 (NEW DATE!!) 4-H Leaders Board Meeting, 6:30 PM on THURSDAY, Oct 23
- 26 Teen Leaders Trick or Treating for Operation Bootstrap, 4:00pm, Junction City
- 31-2 Fall Forum, Green Lake Conference Center, Green Lake, WI

NOVEMBER

- 1 Deadline for Volunteer Enrollment in 4-H Online**
- 3 Deadline for Virtual Pumpkin Carving & Decorating Contest
- 7 4-H Leader's Recognition Banquet 5:30 PM Registration, Dinner at 6:00pm
- 9 4-H Awards Program, Jensen Center, Amherst, 1:00 PM
- 15 4-H Member Re-Enrollments Due in 4-H Online (<http://wi.4honline.com>)**
- 15 Deadline to sign up for Rosholt Fair Market Animal Project**
- 19 Glow & Grow Terrarium Workshop at Annex, 6pm (Grades 3-8)
- 23 Cosmic Cycles Planetarium Show (All Grades)- Noon-1pm @ UWSP Planetarium
- 27 Extension Office Closed (Thanksgiving Holiday)
- 28 Extension Office Closed (Day After Thanksgiving Holiday)

DECEMBER

- 7 Club Officer Training 5-7pm (Location TBD)
- 11 Holiday Ornament Workshop at Annex 6:00PM
- 15 ALL Volunteer Trainings MUST be complete in 4hOnline**
- 15 Deadline for Teen Award, Key Award, Leader of Tomorrow & Ambassador Application**
- 25 Extension Office Closed (Christmas Holiday)
- 26 Extension Office Closed (Christmas Holiday)

CLOVERBUD HALLOWEEN CRAFT NIGHT

Join us for a spooky-fun craft night just for Cloverbuds (K-2nd grade)! Kids will make Monster Slime and Magic Potion Bottles in this hands-on, sensory-friendly STEM activity.

Tuesday, Oct. 21st | 6:00-7:00PM
Portage County Annex

Free for 4-H Members (\$3 for non-members)
Costumes welcome (but not required)!

To Register



TRICK OR TREATING



Come Trick or Treating with the 4-H Teen Leaders Association! Teens will be collecting canned goods and nonperishable food items for Operation Bootstrap.

Who: All 4-H Members in grade 7 & Up (Non-4-H friends are welcome to attend!)
When: Sunday, October 26th, 4:00-7:00pm
Where: Junction City
(Teens will meet at the Village Hall to start - 1001 Main St, Junction City, WI 54443)

FROM OUR FRIENDS IN THE COMMUNITY



4-H PUMPKIN CARVING & DECORATING CONTEST



Show off your pumpkin creativity this fall! Whether you carve, paint, or decorate, we invite Portage County 4-H members, Cloverbuds, their families, parents, and leaders to take part in the fun!

Entry Deadline: November 3rd

For More Info & to Register

PORTAGE COUNTY LAND & WATER POSTER AND SPEAKING CONTEST



The poster contest is open to all Portage County K-12 students and the speaking contest is open to all Portage County 5-12 students. There are prizes and certificates for the top 3 winners!

Entries are due by November 20th, 2025. Registration forms are linked below.

Poster Contest
Speaking Contest

VIRTUAL CULTURAL BAKING SERIES



Register for the Cultural Baking Series held at 6:30 PM on Dec 4, 11, & 18 via Zoom. We will learn new baking techniques, try new-to-us ingredients, and explore our cultural connection to food. This series is recommended for those in 4th grade and up.

Families will receive a recipe book and ingredient list by email.

Registration closes Nov 17th at Noon.

For More Info & to Register

There is no fee for this program. Your family will need to purchase ingredients and supplies.

We will be making: Swedish Crackers, Cornmeal cranberry cookies & Helbeh (Middle Eastern Fenugreek Cake)

4-H Leaders Appreciation Banquet

All 4-H leaders and their families are warmly invited to attend our upcoming 4-H Leaders Banquet! This special evening is a wonderful opportunity to come together, celebrate the past year, and look ahead to another exciting season of youth development and community impact.

Friday, November 7th - Jensen Center (487 N Main Street, Amherst)

Registration at 5:30 PM - Dinner at 6:00 PM | Cost is \$10 per person.
(1st year leaders and Award Winners eat free. Youth age 12 & under are \$5)

Please RSVP AT bit.ly/PoCo4-HBanquet by October 31st

We would like to recognize the following individuals for their outstanding service and dedication to Portage County 4-H:

One Year of Service

- Brenna Davis (County-Wide)
- Karissa Friday (Carson Climbers)
- Rachel Jensen (Tomorrow River Voyagers)
- Candace Lein (Almond Busy Bees)
- Karla Lockman (Plover Clovers)
- Alison Mlodik (Nelsonville Zippy Zees)
- Chris Mlodik (Nelsonville Zippy Zees)
- Nicole Skadahh (Junction City Golden Stars)
- Carrie Wade (Almond Busy Bees)
- Lindsey Wallace (Plover Clovers)
- Jennifer Wierzba (Market Animal Committee)

Five Years of Service

- Christine Keck (Casimer Boosters)
- Pam Peters (Sunnyside Climbers)

- Gail Stanislawski-Lopez (Rosholt Pioneers)
- Rachel Turney (Eager Eagles)

Ten Years of Service

- Eric Trzebiatowski (Plover Clovers)

Fifteen Years of Service

- Jessica Kildahl (Tomorrow River Voyagers)
- Joshua Kildahl (Tomorrow River Voyagers)
- Jaime Sanford (Almond Busy Bees)

Twenty Years of Service

- Nathaniel Miller (Market Animal Committee)

Thirty Years of Service

- Mary Dombrowski (Casimer Boosters)

4-H Volunteer of the Year: Michelle Waltenberg & Sherry Wanta

4-H Alumni Award: Louise Skornia

Friend of 4-H Award: Village Gardens

Club Leader of the Year: Stephanie Radtke

Project Leader of the Year: Michelle Waltenberg

Clover Legacy Award(s): Louise Skornia, Dr. Barb Kasproicz, Rachel Turney,
Jennifer Konkol



Portage County 4-H

*Annual
4-H Awards
Program*

Sunday, November 9th

1:00-3:00pm

Jensen Community Center

487 N Main Street, Amherst

Join us for a fun-filled afternoon of celebration as we recognize the amazing accomplishments of our 4-H youth. Bring your family and show your support for the program that helps young people grow, lead, and thrive!

Awards will be presented for: Record books, Trips and travel experiences, and Outstanding achievements

Special recognition for: Cloverbuds, First-year members, Graduates, Teen Leaders, Ambassadors, Trip delegates, and many more!

***Help us build the slideshow shown at the Awards Program!
Send your favorite 4-H photos to Lisa at lisa.henriksen@wisc.edu.***



#1- Green Softstyle Cotton Tee
\$10 each
Sizes: Adult S- Adult 3XL



#2- Softstyle Mid-Weight Hoodie
\$25 each
Sizes: Adult S- Adult 3XL



#7- Green Tie Dye Youth Hoodie
\$35 each
Sizes: Youth XS- Youth XL



#8- Teal Tie Dye Adult Hoodie
\$35 each
Sizes: Adult S- Adult 2XL



#3- Pink Cool-Wick Tank
\$15 each
Sizes: Adult S- Adult 3XL



#4- Grey Cool-Wick Tank
\$15 each
Sizes: Adult S- Adult 3XL



#9- Youth Tie Dye Tee
\$15 each
Sizes: Youth XS- Youth XL



#10- Cable Knit Beanie
\$10 each
Size: One Size Fits All



#5- Pink Full Zip Hoodie
\$35 each
Sizes: Adult S- Adult 3XL



#6- Grey Full Zip Hoodie
\$35 each
Sizes: Adult S- Adult 3XL



#11- Flannel Lounge Pants
\$32 each
Sizes: Adult S- Adult 2XL



#12- Embroidered Trucker Hat
\$20 each
Size: One Size Fits All



#13- Ladies 1/4 Zip Knit
\$40 each
Sizes: Ladies XS-3XL



#14- Men's 1/4 Zip Fleece
\$30 each
Sizes: Mens S-3XL



#19- Enamelware Mug
\$10 each
Sizes: 22 oz



#20- Folding Umbrella
\$10 each
Sizes: One Size



#15- Waterproof Decal
\$3 each
Sizes: 3" x 3"



#16- Custom Supply Bucket
\$10 each
Sizes: One-Size



#21- 'Make the Best Better' Tee
\$12 each
Sizes: Youth M- Adult 3XL



#22- 4-H Belt Buckle
\$30 each
Plated with Nickel & 22k Gold



#17- Custom Labcoat
\$20 each
Youth- 5-6, 8-10, 12-14, 16-18:
Adult- XS-2XL



#18- Custom Show Apron
\$20 each
Sizes: One Size
Colors: Tie Dye or Green



#23- '4-H Elastic Hair Ties
\$5 each



#24- Cotton Canvas Pouch
\$5 each

4-H APPAREL/SWAG ORDER

Order Forms & Payment Due by: Oct 30th

[Click here for the Catalog & Order Form](#)

75-76 Portage County 4-H Apparel & Swag Order Form

Form Name: _____ Club: _____ Phone: _____

Item	Size	Quantity	Price	Total
Green Softstyle Cotton Tee			\$10.00	
Softstyle Mid-Weight Hoodie			\$25.00	
Green Tie Dye Youth Hoodie			\$35.00	
Teal Tie Dye Adult Hoodie			\$35.00	
Pink Cool-Wick Tank			\$15.00	
Grey Cool-Wick Tank			\$15.00	
Youth Tie Dye Tee			\$15.00	
Cable Knit Beanie			\$10.00	
Pink Full Zip Hoodie			\$35.00	
Grey Full Zip Hoodie			\$35.00	
Flannel Lounge Pants			\$32.00	
Embroidered Trucker Hat			\$20.00	
Ladies 1/4 Zip Knit			\$40.00	
Men's 1/4 Zip Fleece			\$30.00	
Enamelware Mug			\$10.00	
Folding Umbrella			\$10.00	
Waterproof Decal			\$3.00	
Custom Supply Bucket			\$10.00	
'Make the Best Better' Tee			\$12.00	
4-H Belt Buckle			\$30.00	
Custom Labcoat			\$20.00	
Custom Show Apron			\$20.00	
'4-H Elastic Hair Ties			\$5.00	
Cotton Canvas Pouch			\$5.00	
GRAND TOTAL (After Discounts)				

*MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO PORTAGE COUNTY TREASURER (445)

This document is only valid if signed by a 4-H adult and a 4-H youth member. Validity is for 30 days.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

2025-2026 CAMP OPPORTUNITIES

winter leadership camp
Save the Date

level up your leadership

Date Month Year
23-25 1 2026

  Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

IOWA, PORTAGE, & WAUPACA

SUMMER 4-H CAMP

**COUNSELOR
SEARCH**

Applications are now open for 4-H Summer Camp Counselors and our new Counselor-in-Training (CIT) program! Youth in grades 9+ are eligible to apply as Camp Counselors, while the CIT program is open to 8th grade students only who are interested in developing leadership skills and learning what it takes to be a future camp counselor. Simply scan the QR code below to access the application. Applications are due February 16th, 2025.

**CAMP DATES
JUNE 15-17
2026**



2025-2026

NEW!

ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS & INCENTIVE PROGRAM

All members & volunteers will be receiving a 4-H membership package that will include a 2025-2026 membership card, 4-H lanyard & achievement program flier. (Along with several other fun 4-H things!)

We encourage all members & volunteers to wear your lanyards to your club meetings to show your achievement and encourage other members to get involved!



By attending county-wide events, participating in trips and travel, and earning points throughout the year in various project areas, members can submit achievement program forms to earn pins throughout the year!

The county office will manage dispersement of pins on a monthly basis so you can earn them all year long- not just at the end-of-year awards ceremony!

Earn Pins!

Wear Them @ Events & Club Mtgs!

Collect them all!

Show them off!

Rosholt Fair Market Animal Project

Important: Market Animal Project Deadline – November 15

Are you planning to exhibit beef, swine, or sheep in the 2026 Rosholt Fair Market Animal Show and Sale?

To participate, you must enroll in the Market Animal Project by **November 15, 2025** — no exceptions!

You can sign up by:

- Complete the form ([found here](#)) and e-mail a scanned PDF or picture to pmap.secretary@gmail.com
- Enroll fully online by visiting <https://bit.ly/PoCoMarketAnimal>

Once submitted, you'll receive an email confirmation.



4-H Youth Leadership in Agriculture Award

DUE: January 2, 2026

The 4-H Leadership in Agriculture Award is given to deserving 4-H youth members for their dedication to 4-H, their community, and agriculture. It will be presented by the Portage County Business Council Agri-Business Committee at the Agri-Business Banquet in the spring.

Applications are available on the [Portage County Extension Website](#) under awards & scholarships.



Livestock exhibitors at the 2025 Rosholt Fair

4-H Adult Agriculture Leader of the Year Award

DUE: January 2, 2026

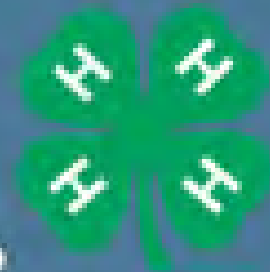
This award is given out by the Portage County Agri-Business Committee. If you know of a deserving leader (must be current leader) who has made exceptional contributions to agriculture education through 4-H, please submit a nomination (you are also welcome to nominate yourself through the online form)! The award will be presented at the Portage County Agri-Business Banquet in the spring.

To submit a nomination, visit: <https://bit.ly/PoCoAgLeader>



Let the

4-H TRAVEL BEGIN



2025 Funding Assistance for State and National 4-H Events

4-H members can discover their “spark” through opportunities at the club, county, state, and national levels—including educational events sponsored by Wisconsin 4-H. Learn more at 4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/statewide-events-and-opportunities. To ensure cost isn’t a barrier, Portage County 4-H youth may apply for both local financial assistance from the Portage County 4-H Leaders Association and statewide scholarships through UW- Madison. Details and application links are provided below.

Portage County 4-H Funding for State and National 4-H Events

The Portage County 4-H Leaders Association has budgeted funds to support youth attending State and National 4-H events in 2026. Award amounts will cover 35% of trip cost. *(Additional support is available from the Portage County Teen Leaders for youth who volunteered at the 2025 Amherst Fair Food Stand. If you volunteered, be sure to check the box on page 2 of the application.)*

To apply, complete the **Portage County 4-H Financial Assistance Application**. Both PDF and Word versions of the application can be found on the [Portage County Extension website](#).

Deadline: November 1st

Wisconsin 4-H Statewide Funding for State and National 4-H Events

The Wisconsin 4-H Foundation annually provides funding for needs-based scholarships to help youth participate in statewide Educational Experiences. Cost should never be a barrier to participation. Applications will be part of the registration process in 4HOnline for each travel experience.

Hey Volunteers!
WE NEED YOU
FOR THE 4-H LEADERS ASSOCIATION!



The **Portage County 4-H Leaders Association** is a chartered 4-H group that provides opportunities for 4-H volunteers and youth leaders to support our local 4-H program.

Much like a school PTO/PTA, 4-H Leader Organizations activities include:

- Fundraising for 4-H trips, travel & scholarships
- Financial support of 4-H programming
- Supplemental award recognition for 4-H youth
- Volunteer awards & recognition
- 4-H Promotion & Advocacy
- Program/Event Idea Generation

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23RD AT 6:30PM
at the Portage County Annex Building

PORTAGE COUNTY 4-H LEADERS ASSOCIATION IS BEING RE-IMAGINED!

WHO: Club leaders, Volunteers, Parents, Guardians and/or 4-H Alumni AND YOUTH members!!

WHEN: Just 4-6 meetings per year!

WHY: To have your voice heard to improve our 4-H programs, determine new fundraisers, dream-up new ideas & support our youth!

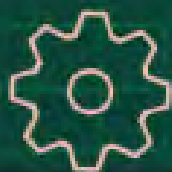
ROLES AVAILABLE IN 2025-2026:

- Vice President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- General Members/Directors



Congratulations on Your Retirement Jan!

A huge thank you to Jan Miller for your many years of service to the Portage County Leaders Association. Please help us wish Jan well on her retirement from the Leaders Association!



LEVEL UP YOUR LEADERSHIP 4-H WINTER LEADERSHIP CAMP

YOUTH IN GRADES 7-12TH

will enhance their leadership skills while having fun.

JAN. 23-25

SPENCER LAKE

N1385 Cty Hwy E
Waupaca, WI 54981

**COST: ~~\$185~~
only \$95***

**price reduced thanks to the
PoCo 4-H Leaders Association*

REGISTER BY DECEMBER 19 ON 4-H ONLINE.

Registration opens October 1.



UW-MADISON EXTENSION





Portage County 4-H

Apply Today!

BECOME A 4-H AMBASSADOR

(aka: 4-H Influencer!)

Hey there, future change-makers! Want to be part of something awesome? As a 4-H Ambassador, you're not just a member—you're a leader, a role model, and a voice for youth in your community!

HERE'S WHY BEING A 4-H AMBASSADOR IS SERIOUSLY COOL:

- You Get to Lead: Step up and represent 4-H at events, fairs, and community programs. You'll speak to groups, help plan activities, and show others what 4-H is all about!
- You Meet Amazing People: Connect with other Ambassadors across the county and state. Build friendships, network with leaders, and even travel to cool places for leadership conferences!
- You Grow Big-Time Skills: Public speaking, teamwork, event planning, leadership—you'll gain skills that look great on college applications and help you shine in any future career.
- You Inspire Others: You'll be the face of 4-H, encouraging younger members to get involved, dream big, and believe in themselves. That's a powerful role!

WHAT WOULD MY COMMITMENTS BE AS A PORTAGE COUNTY 4-H AMBASSADOR?

- Regularly Participate in the Portage County 4-H Teen Leaders Association Meetings & Activities
- Help Judge Cloverbud Projects and Handout Awards at the Amherst & Rosholt Fairs
- Attend & Help Promote 4-H at Event Tables such as: June Dairy Days, Celebrate Amherst, Farmers Market, Local Parades, etc.
- Assist with social media promotion of 4-H to the general public
- Represent 4-H in the community

(NEW) AMBASSADOR SWAG

- Ambassadors will receive a branded 4-H Fleece Zip Up Jacket & a 4-H black or green branded shirt
- Ambassador name tag with title & logo
- Ambassador sash for formal events and parades

HOW DO I APPLY?

- Watch your email for the 2025-2026 Ambassador Application
- Complete the application and schedule a peer interview with the Portage County 4-H Office
- Attend the interview and tell your fellow teen leaders why you would make a great ambassador!

Rosholt Fair Best of Show

DAIRY

Grand Champion: Colten Kunst, Rosholt FFA

Trophy Sponsor: LASHUA FARMS

Reserve Champion: Maria Elizalde, TR Voyagers

Trophy Sponsor: Wolosek Family Enterprises

Jr. Grand Champion: Ashlyn Kunst, Rosholt FFA

Trophy Sponsor: Tomorrow Valley Ag, LLC

Jr. Reserve Champion: Ashlyn Kunst, Rosholt FFA

Trophy Sponsor: Farm First Dairy Coop

Senior Showmanship: Josie Lashua, Rosholt Pioneers

Trophy Sponsor: Rosholt Blizzard Busters

Intermediate Showmanship: Maria Elizalde, TR Voyagers

Trophy Sponsor: Schuster LLC

Beginner Showmanship: Ralieg Oliver, NZZ

Altmann Enterprises Dairy, LLC

Best Udder: Colten Kunst, Rosholt FFA

Trophy Sponsor: Karen & Dave Simonis & Family

Outstanding Dairy Exhibitor: Cortnee Peterson, NZZ

Award Sponsor: Almond Busy Bees 4-H

BEEF

Grand Market Beef: Nora Lein, Almond Busy Bees

Trophy Sponsor: Circle P Cattle Co.

Reserve Market Beef: Adison Glodowski, Wisconsin Junior Simmental Association

Trophy Sponsor: Al & Betsy Suehring

Grand Breeding Beef: Nora Lein, Almond Busy Bees

Trophy Sponsor: Miller Angus Farm

Reserve Breeding Beef: Adison Glodowski, Wisconsin Junior Simmental Association

Trophy Sponsor: Jeff & Suzie Kaminski & Family

Grand Champ Carcass: Adam Kirsling, NZZ

Trophy Sponsor: Scott & Michelle Budsberg

Reserve Champ Carcass: Nora Lein, Almond Busy Bees

Trophy Sponsor: Adam & Kenzie Gruna

Senior Showmanship: Jillian Bruder, Wisconsin Junior Simmental Association

Trophy Sponsor: Todd & Audrey Wierzb

Intermediate Showmanship: Nora Lein, Almond Busy Bees

Trophy Sponsor: Curtis Hansen

Beginner Showmanship: Charlie Burns, Almond Busy Bees

Trophy Sponsor: Rosholt Blizzard Busters

Outstanding Beef Exhibitor: Adison Glodowski, Wisconsin Junior Simmental Association

Award Sponsor: In Memory of Dan Walder

Clean Barn: Stevens Point FFA

Award Sponsor: Market Animal Committee

SWINE

Grand Champion: Ean Schulist, Rosholt Pioneers

Trophy Sponsor: Rick Yach

Reserve Champ: Samuel Stuczynski, TR Voyagers

Trophy Sponsor: Keith & Tracy Glodowski

Grand Champ Carcass: Natalie Kildahl, TR Voyagers

Trophy Sponsor: Top Choice Realty

Reserve Champion Carcass: Ace Hogan, Carson Climbers

Trophy Sponsor: The Hetchlers

Senior Showmanship: Jaclynn Kaminski, Rosholt FFA

Trophy Sponsor: Rosholt Blizzard Busters

Intermediate Showmanship: Vernon Karl, Silver Knights

Trophy Sponsor: BART'S A1 Storage

Beginner Showmanship: Ean Schulist, Rosholt Pioneers

Trophy Sponsor: Plover River Farms Alliance Inc.

Outstanding Swine Exhibitor: Christina Peterson, NZZ

Award Sponsor: Triple O Acres: Nancy Seaman

Clean Barn: Tomorrow River Voyagers 4-H Club

Award Sponsor: Market Animal Committee

SHEEP

Grand Market Lamb: Nora Lein, Almond Busy Bees

Trophy Sponsor: Roy & Lissa Danforth & Family

Reserve Market Lamb: Noah Spoelstra, TR Voyagers

Trophy Sponsor: Rosholt FFA Alumni

Grand Champ Meat Breeds: Abby Sekerka, Rosholt FFA

Trophy Sponsor: Chris & Tammy Stanislawski

Reserve Champ Meat Breeds: Nora Lein, Almond Busy Bees

Trophy Sponsor: Ardency Farms

Grand Champion Carcass: Nora Lein, Almond Busy Bees

Trophy Sponsor: Mullins Cheese Inc.

Reserve Champion Carcass: Noah Spoelstra, TR Voyagers

Trophy Sponsor: Bart's A1 Storage

Senior Showmanship: Noah Spoelstra, TR Voyagers

Trophy Sponsor: Rustic Raven's Antiques

Intermediate Showmanship: Nora Lein, Almond Busy Bees

Trophy Sponsor: Country Canteen

Beginner Showmanship: Olivia Starr, Rosholt Pioneers

Trophy Sponsor: Heidi Leiser-O'Neil

Rate Of Gain: Olivia Starr, Rosholt Pioneers

Trophy Sponsor: Fuzzy-Hitsman Farms

Outstanding Sheep Exhibitor: Kelsie Davis, Rosholt Pioneers

Award Sponsor: The Matysik Family

Clean Barn: Tomorrow River Voyagers 4-H Club

Award Sponsor: Market Animal Committee

GOATS

Grand Champion Dairy Goat: Scott Raschka, NZZ

Trophy Sponsor: Ricky Kurszewski

Reserve Champion Dairy Goat: Ralieg Oliver, NZZ

Trophy Sponsor: M/W Ranch

Grand Champion Meat Goat: Cortnee Peterson, NZZ

Trophy Sponsor: Jan Kraetsch, Smart Move Realty

Reserve Champion Meat Goat: Brenna Lockman, Plover Clovers

Trophy Sponsor: Phil Stewart

Rosholt Fair Best of Show

GOATS Cont.

Senior Showmanship: Natalie Carlson, Amherst FFA

Trophy Sponsor: Bill & Mary Skibba

Intermediate Showmanship: Allison Raddatz, NZZ

Trophy Sponsor: Lisa's Curl Up & Tan

Beginner Showmanship: Mahoney Knutson, NZZ

Trophy Sponsor: Scott & Michelle Budsberg

Outstanding Goat Exhibitor: Catrina Pliska, Carson Climbers

Trophy Sponsor: The Matysik Family

Clean Barn: Carson Climbers 4-H Club

Award Sponsor: Lisa's Curl Up & Tan

HORSE & PONY

Gr Champ English Equitation: Abby Bey, River Valley Riders

Trophy Sponsor: M/W Ranch

Res Champ English Equitation: Hadley Michels, River Valley Riders

Trophy Sponsor: Country Canteen

Gr Champ English Pleasure: Kaitlin Cisewski, Carson Climbers

Trophy Sponsor: Lisa's Curl Up & Tan

Res Champ English Pleasure: Bree Potter, River Valley Riders

Trophy Sponsor: M/W Ranch

Gr Champ Western Horsemanship: Abby Bey, River Valley Riders

Trophy Sponsor: Central WI Pest Control

Res Champ Western Horsemanship: Kaitlin Cisewski, Carson Climbers

Trophy Sponsor: Tracy's Family Hair Care

Gr Champ Western Pleasure: Kaitlin Cisewski, Carson Climbers

Trophy Sponsor: Franki's 8 Apothecary

Res Champ Western Pleasure: Phoebe Konopacky, River Valley Riders

Trophy Sponsor: DJ's Water Service

Grand Champion Halter: Kaitlin Cisewski, Carson Climbers

Res Champion Halter: Delaney Baum, River Valley Riders

Senior Showmanship: Kaitlin Cisewski, Carson Climbers

Trophy Sponsor: M/W Ranch

Intermediate Showmanship: Delaney Baum, River Valley Riders

Trophy Sponsor: Neal & Michelle Simonis

Beginning Showmanship: Willemina Kadoch, River Valley Riders

Trophy Sponsor: Mike & Deb Morgan

Outstanding Horse Exhibitor: Abby Bey, River Valley Riders

Trophy Sponsor: Rohsolt Pioneers 4-H Club

POULTRY

Grand Champ Large Poultry: Gavin Mlodik, NZZ

Trophy Sponsor: Bart's A1 Storage

Reserve Champ Large Poultry: Ciara Waltenberg, NZZ

Trophy Sponsor: Jan Kraetsch, Smart Move Realty

Grand Champion Bantam: Ciara Waltenberg, NZZ

Trophy Sponsor: Top Choice Realty

Reserve Champion Bantam: Grant Mlodik, NZZ

Trophy Sponsor: Top Choice Realty

Gr Champion Waterfowl: Johnathan Jakubek, Rosholt FFA

Trophy Sponsor: Phil Stewart

Reserve Champion Waterfowl: Ciara Waltenberg, Nelsonville Zippy Zees

Trophy Sponsor: Tracy's Family Hair Care

Grand Champion Pigeon: Ciara Waltenberg, NZZ

Trophy Sponsor: Mark's Machine Shop

Reserve Champion Pigeon: Nora Schmied, NZZ

Trophy Sponsor: Bill & Mary Skibba

Outstanding Poultry Exhibitor: Aubrey Raddatz, NZZ

Award Sponsor: Kari Burns

Senior Showmanship: Corrina Pliska, Nelsonville Zippy Zees

Trophy Sponsor: All In Trucking LLC

Intermediate Showmanship: Allison Raddatz, NZZ

Trophy Sponsor: Bart's A1 Storage

Beginning Showmanship: Grant Mlodik, NZZ

Trophy Sponsor: Top Choice Realty

Best Overall Bird: Gavin Mlodik, Nelsonville Zippy Zees

Trophy Sponsor: Tracy's Family Hair Care

Best American: Gavin Mlodik, Nelsonville Zippy Zees

Best Mediterranean: Ciara Waltenberg, NZZ

Best Asiatic: Ciara Waltenberg, Nelsonville Zippy Zees

Best English: Ciara Waltenberg, Nelsonville Zippy Zees

Best Continental: Nora Schmied, Nelsonville Zippy Zees

Best Other Standard: Emmett Beach, NZZ

Best Single Comb Clean Leg Bantam: Grant Mlodik, NZZ

Best Rose Comb Clean Leg Bantam: Gavin Mlodik, NZZ

Best Feather Legged Bantam: Ciara Waltenberg, NZZ

Best Game Bantam: Ace Hogan, Carson Climbers

Best Other Clean-Leg Bantam: Ciara Waltenberg, NZZ

Best of Ducks – Heavy: Corrina Pliska, NZZ

Best of Ducks – Medium: Ciara Waltenberg, NZZ

Best of Ducks – Light: Scott Raschka, Nelsonville Zippy Zees

Best of Ducks – Bantam: Johnathan Jakubek, Rosholt FFA

Best of Geese – Medium: Nora Schmied, NZZ

Clean Barn: Rosholt FFA

Award Sponsor: Norma & Craig Anderson

Rosholt Fair Best of Show

RABBITS

Grand Champion: Abby Bey, Plover Clovers

Trophy Sponsor: Black Diamond Photography

Reserve Champion: Ciara Waltenberg, NZZ

Trophy Sponsor: Bill & Mary Skibba

Outstanding Rabbit Exhibitor: Ciara Waltenberg, NZZ

Award Sponsor: Scott & Michelle Budsberg

Senior Showmanship: Natalie Carlson, Amherst FFA

Trophy Sponsor: Mark's Machine Shop

Intermediate Showmanship: Scott Raschka, NZZ

Trophy Sponsor: Scott & Michelle Budsberg

Beginner Showmanship: Emmett Beach, NZZ

Trophy Sponsor: Blue Bunny Acres

Best Californian: Ciara Waltenberg, Nelsonville Zippy Zees

Best English Lop: Ciara Waltenberg, Nelsonville Zippy

Best Flemish Giant: Marcus Krueger, Casimer Boosters

Best New Zealand: Rosalyn Knutson, Nelsonville Zippy Zees

Best Satin: Natalie Carlson, Amherst FFA

Best Other 6-Class Breed: Corrina Pliska, NZZ

Best Dutch: Scott Raschka, Nelsonville Zippy Zees

Best Dwarf Hotot: Mahoney Knutson, NZZ

Best Havana: Marcus Krueger, Casimer Boosters

Best Himalayan: Marcus Krueger, Casimer Boosters

Best Holland Lop: Kennadi Borchert, Nelsonville Zippy Zees

Best Jersey Wooly: Scott Raschka, Nelsonville Zippy Zees

Best Lionhead: Sophia Krebsbach, Carson Climbers

Best Mini Lop: Abby Bey, Plover Clovers

Best Rex: Emmett Beach, Nelsonville Zippy Zees

Best Mini Rex: Scott Raschka, Nelsonville Zippy Zees

Best Netherland Dwarf: Ciara Waltenberg, NZZ

Best Polish: Scott Raschka, Nelsonville Zippy Zees

Best Other 4-Class Breed: Ciara Waltenberg, NZZ

Clean Barn: Casimer Boosters 4-H Club

Award Sponsor: Lisa's Curl Up & Tan

DOGS

Grand Champion Dog Obedience: Nora Eron, Carson Climbers

Trophy Sponsor: In Memory of Diana L. Burns

Reserve Champion Dog Obedience: Grant Mlodik, NZZ

Trophy Sponsor: Bill & Mary Skibba

Grand Champion Rally Obedience: Matthew Carlson, NZZ

Award Sponsor: LCK Transport LLC

Senior Showmanship: Jessica Oliver, Nelsonville Zippy Zees

Trophy Sponsor: Tracy Perrine in Memory of her Husband

Intermediate Showmanship: Hazel Oliver, NZZ

Beginner Showmanship: Grant Mlodik, NZZ

Trophy Sponsor: Bill & Mary Skibba

CATS

Cats Grand Champion: Camryn Wade, Almond Busy Bees

Award Sponsor: In Memory of Geno Mancel

Cats Reserve Champion: Jordan O'Shaughnessy, Carson Climbers

SMALL ANIMALS

Grand Champion: Camryn Wade, Almond Busy Bees (Hamster)

Reserve Champion: Drake Martens, Casimer Boosters (Guinea Pig)

ANIMALS & VETERINARY SCIENCE

Kelsie Davis, Rosholt Pioneers

VEGETABLES & CROPS

Ace Hogan, Carson Climbers

Ralieg Oliver, Nelsonville Zippy Zees

FLOWERS

William Skadahl, Junction City Golden Stars

Ashley Miller, Rosholt Pioneers

Grace Betker, Rosholt Pioneers

NATURAL SCIENCES

Ryan Stanislawski, Rosholt Pioneers

EXPLORING

Magnolia Merchak, Plover Clovers

CULTURAL ARTS

Abby Bey, Plover Clovers

Christina Peterson, Nelsonville Zippy Zees

Elizabeth Wierzb, Rosholt Pioneers

Analín Padilla, Rosholt Pioneers

Analín Padilla, Rosholt Pioneers

Jack Eron, Carson Climbers

Hadley Michels, River Valley Riders

Elias Kadoch, River Valley Riders

Ashley Miller, Rosholt Pioneers

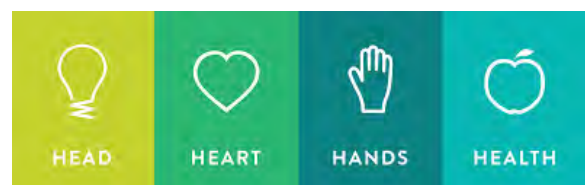
Hadley Michels, River Valley Riders

Analín Padilla, Rosholt Pioneers

Corrina Pliska, Nelsonville Zippy Zees

Elsie Berdan, Tomorrow River Voyagers

Cortnee Peterson, Nelsonville Zippy Zees



Rosholt Fair Best of Show

PHOTOGRAPHY

Gwendolyn Steinhauer, Rosholt Pioneers
Marcus Krueger, Casimer Boosters
Hadley Michels, River Valley Riders
Hadley Michels, River Valley Riders
Kaelynn Kazda, Nelsonville Zippy Zees
Amelia Vassar, Junction City Golden Stars
Ciara Waltenberg, Nelsonville Zippy Zees

WOODWORKING

Mads Jensen, Tomorrow River Voyagers

MECHANICAL PROJECTS

Andrew Wierzba, Rosholt Pioneers

FOODS & NUTRITION/FOOD PRESERVATION

Amelia Vassar, Junction City Golden Stars
Jack Skadahl, Junction City Golden Stars
Ellie Vassar, Junction City Golden Stars
Kaelynn Kazda, Nelsonville Zippy Zees
Mahoney Knutson, Nelsonville Zippy Zees
Olivia Bessette, Rosholt Pioneers
Roselyn Knutson, Nelsonville Zippy Zees
Glen Rydberg, Casimer Boosters

CAKE DECORATING

Hazel Oliver, Nelsonville Zippy Zees
Matti Trzebiatowski, Plover Clovers

CLOTHING

Christina Peterson, Nelsonville Zippy Zees (Quilt)
Christina Peterson, Nelsonville Zippy Zees (Dress)

CROCHETING

Gracie Flees, Rosholt FFA

HOME ENVIRONMENT

Autumn Polum, Nelsonville Zippy Zees

CREATIVE WRITING

Emma Koziczowski, Plover Clovers

SELF-DETERMINED

Jakub Filtz, Rosholt Pioneers

HEALTH & CITIZENSHIP

Ashley Miller, Rosholt Pioneers

YOUTH GROUP BOOTHS

Plover Clovers 4-H Club



*Nelsonville Zippy Zees/ Sunset Stars 4-H member
Nora Schmied with her Champion Pigeon*



*Members from across the county participate in the small animal
costume contest created by Leader Michelle Waltenberg at Rosholt*



4-H Ambassadors help judge the Cloverbud projects at the Rosholt Fair

AWARD OPPORTUNITIES

KEY AWARD

Requirements: Must be in at least 10th grade of the current year, have at least 3 years' experience in 4-H and 1 year of enrollment in the Youth Leadership project.
Maximum Number: Up to 2 recipients. This is the highest state 4-H award offered. It is based on all 4-H work done by the member since joining 4-H, including youth leadership.

LEADERS OF TOMORROW AWARD

Requirements: Must be in at least 11th grade, and exhibit leadership ability and potential.
Maximum Number: Up to 2 recipients. Recognizes character, balanced personal development, and excellence in leadership.

Applications for these awards will open on November 1st.

Application materials will be available on the Portage County 4-H Extension Website.

DEADLINES for these Awards will be DECEMBER 15th, 2025.



Nelsonville Zippy Zees Member Matthew Carlson at the State 4-H Dog Show



Portage County Poultry Quiz Bowl Team heads to Nationals to represent the state of Wisconsin! (R to L: Colton Schulist, Kennadi Borchert, Weston Spiegel, Ciara Waltenberg)

4-H'ERS IN ACTION!



Members of our newest 4-H Club – The Sunset Stars!



Members of the Carson Climbers took a Field Trip to Rock Ridge Orchard



Almond Busy Bees 4-H Club Display at the Almond Bancroft School Open House



Pictured above & below right: Members of the Rosholt Pioneers and their bouquets made during their flower arranging workshops



The Tomorrow River Voyagers learned all about apples and how to make fresh cider at their September meeting.



Members of the Tomorrow River Voyagers added a splash of color to the festivities at Celebrate Amherst by providing face painting services!



4-H'ERS IN ACTION!



The Sunset Stars 4-H Club holds a costume contest at their October meeting held at Central Sands High School



Agnes Mallek (Junction City Golden Stars) club leader must have gifted her amazing baking skills to her great grandchildren- as 3 of them won Best of Show in baked goods at the Rosholt Fair!



Grant & Gunnar Mlodik (Sunset Stars) participate with 2 junior members from other counties at the State Avian Quiz Bowl.



Gavin Mlodik, Scott Raschka, Nora Schmied & Alli Raddatz (Sunset Stars) represent Portage County as a junior team for the State Avian Quiz Bowl competition.

4-H CLUB REPORTS

TOMORROW RIVER VOYAGERS

The Tomorrow River Voyagers 4-H Club recently concluded a busy month of significant community service and rewarding club activities. The TR Voyagers are proud to showcase the positive energy and dedication of 4-H youth in the Tomorrow River area.

Club members also took part in the annual roadside cleanup along Highway Q between Nelsonville and Amherst Junction. Their commitment to the community was also apparent at Celebrate Amherst this fall, where club volunteers expertly handled face painting for kids of all ages! The TR Voyagers demonstrated immense pride during 4-H Week in early October. The week consisted of the temporary painting of the rock outside Amherst High School, serving as a spirited announcement of 4-H opportunities. Club members also wore green throughout the week and shared announcements at school to promote the benefits of 4-H.

The club also made plenty of time for fun, recently enjoying a memorable social outing at Feltz's Dairy. Members navigated the corn maze, strengthening teamwork and connections within the club.

These activities are just a sample of the many club and community activities that the Tomorrow River Voyagers take part in throughout the year! Membership in 4-H provides so many great opportunities for kids to grow in their leadership and service skills while making a positive impact on their community.

The Tomorrow River Voyagers encourage all local families and youth to explore the enriching opportunities that 4-H provides! Whether a student is interested in service, STEAM, healthy living, or agriculture, 4-H offers a supportive environment to learn and grow.

To discover more about joining the Tomorrow River Voyagers or other Portage County 4-H programs, please visit the [Portage County Extension](#) website. Interested families should look for the "New Family Interest Form" link to get more information!

Submitted by Gabriella Young-Bassett, TR Voyagers Reporter



PORTAGE COUNTY 4-H LEADER'S BOARD MINUTES

June 2025

The Portage County 4-H Leader Association Board meeting, held on 6-16-25, via Zoom and in-person at the Annex conference rooms 1 & 2, was called to order by President Christine Keck at 6:31 p.m. Pledges were recited and roll call was taken. PRESENT: Marilyn Pederson (Carson Climbers), Christine Keck (Casimer Boosters), Sharon Cisewski (Plover Clovers), Jan Miller (Rosholt Pioneers), Louise Skornia (Sunnyside Climbers), Agnes Mallek (Junction City Golden Stars), Kathy Glodowski (County-Wide) and Amy Boelk (4-H Educator)

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: 4-H Scholarship Presentation, 4-H Food Stand, June Dairy Days, 4-H Ambassador Activities | MINUTES: Approved as presented | OFFICER REPORTS: Treasurer's Report: Checking account - \$24,577.08 Savings account - \$888.57 Treasurer's report will be placed on file. | Secretary's Report and Correspondence: None

COMMITTEE/CLUB/LEADER REPORTS: County-Wide project workshops/meetings – Speaking and Demonstration Workshop - no one has signed up yet. Cake Decorating Workshop will be held June 27th at 7:00 p.m. in the Rosholt American Legion Hall. Workshop will be taught by Lucy Gwidt. Information about the workshop was posted Friday. Six youth have already signed up. | 4-H Ambassador Activities – Per Sharon, 4-H Ambassadors did not attend Mark Motors Safety Fair this year. Amy has a list from the Amherst Fair Board about areas ambassadors could help with. She will set up a meeting with Sharon to discuss. Christine requested that ambassadors help MC the Clothing Revue at the Rosholt Fair. | Amherst Fair – Per Amy, Juniper will be judging Cloverbud entries. 4-H will have a 3-day presence at the Amherst Fair which will include activities, a goose chase scavenger hunt and a 4-H photo booth. | June Dairy Days – Juniper manned a 4-H booth. Christine and daughter helped make grilled cheese sandwiches. Other activities included distributing ice cream and face painting. 75% of volunteers were 4-H members. This year's event was scaled down from previous years. Activities were moved from an indoor building to the outside. No tours were offered this year.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Scholarship Presentation – The 4-H Scholarship presentation will occur on July 14th at 6:30 p.m. at the Amherst Fairgrounds, prior to the Leader Association meeting. | 4-H Food Stand – Malayna was not present at this board meeting. Per Amy, the work schedule has been determined. Food stand needs exhaust fan. Louise explained that the Teen Leader food stand planning meeting had been postponed due to the rescheduling of the candle making activity which was part of the meeting agenda.

NEW BUSINESS: Leader Board/Association Reorganization - Board vs. Association – Leader Association Bylaws need to be revised. Last revision occurred in 2012. Language needs to be updated to be in compliance with current State 4-H policies. Need to clarify what Board votes on and what has to come to Association for a vote. A sample of current State 4-H Leader Association Bylaws will be sent out to all the 4-H Leaders. | County-wide leader info meetings - Looking for ways to encourage club leaders to participate in the Leader Association meetings. Need to provide leaders with an opportunity to share ideas and resources by incorporating a social element to the meetings. Per Amy, a robust club leader training will be held in the fall to cover all the 4-H program changes that will take place in the new enrollment year. | Budget Recommendations: Changes for 2025-2026 fiscal year - Jan met with Amy last week to prepare a draft copy of the Leader Association 2025-2026 projected budget. Due to State 4-H program changes, several budget items have been removed from the Leader Association budget. Beginning July 1, 2025, insurance and literature expenses will be paid for by the county 4-H office. Leader Association will no longer receive the club dues. Club dues will be paid directly to the county 4-H office. The significant changes to the projected budget draft are as follows: Ignite 4-H Event has been changed from an event where delegates are chosen to an event open to all youth. The Citizenship Washington Focus Event has been combined with the Ignite 4-H event as an optional additional day for participants who are interested in participating. Jan is recommending that the requirement for youth to submit applications for Leader Association event funding be eliminated.

PORTAGE COUNTY 4-H LEADER'S BOARD MINUTES

June 2025 Continued

Since the cost and number of event participants/year varies, the funding would be more uniform if the Leader Association funds 35% of the event cost for all 4-H State and National events. Amount of funding can be provided to potential applicants when they receive event registration information. Number of youth participants listed beside events is based on past history and is just an estimate used to determine possible cost. Budgeted event scholarship funds are interchangeable. Subtotal for all events is \$3,950.00. This number represents the total amount of event funding available for any combination of events. Motion by Marilyn, second by Louise to recommend Leader Association approval of the 2025-2026 Leader Association Projected Budget. Motion passed.

Dues to Portage County 4-H Office, Per Amy, dues can be paid to the 4-H office individually by members or by the club. Funds will be used to offset cost of literature, insurance and county wide 4-H programming. Amount charged for dues will be based on State 4-H recommendation and will not exceed \$5.00.

Speaking & Demonstration Contests – A Speaking and Demonstration Contest will be held at the Amherst Fair on Friday, July 18th from 4:00-6:00 p.m., right before the cake auction. Event registration uses Google sign-up. Lisa will enter participants in FairEntry.

Clothing Review – Contest will be held on Monday, September 1st from 2:00-4:00 p.m. at the Rosholt Fairgrounds. A workshop will be held on August 6th from 6:00-8:00 p.m. An onstage practice will be held on August 28th (night exhibits are brought to the fair).

Plat Book – Photo entries for Plat Book Cover Contest are due July 15th. Who selects photos to be included in photo collage? Jan will check with Lisa.

4-H EDUCATOR UPDATE - Presented two 4-H scholarships at Amherst High School. Juniper's position is funded by AmeriCorps again. She will be working with the Boys and Girls club and library programs. 25 attended Tie Dye Event at Central Sands School and 18 attended Stepping Stone Event at the Lettie Jensen Library in Amherst. Attendees commented that they appreciate events scheduled at other county locations besides Stevens Point. Camp counselor training has been completed. Summer Camp will be next week from Monday through Wednesday. Rosholt Fair still in transition. Fair Board appointed Lisa Wroblewski to be 4-H liaison between the 4-H office and the Fair Board. County wide Kick Off Open House event will be held to explain all the new changes to the 4-H program related to the re-enrollment process. Sign up period for volunteer leaders has been changed. All 4-H volunteer leaders must sign up between September and November. Annual leader training must be completed by December 1st.

Next Leader Association Meeting Date – August 18th, 2025

Adjourn – Meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Yours in 4-H
Marilyn Pederson

Members of the Carson Climbers took a Field Trip to Rock Ridge Orchard



PORTAGE COUNTY 4-H LEADER'S ASSOCIATION MINUTES

July 2025

The Portage County 4-H Leader Association meeting, held on 7-14-25 at the Amherst Fairgrounds, was called to order by President Christine Keck at 6:04 p.m. Pledges were recited and roll call was taken via personal introductions. Handouts included copies of a proposal for the Leader Board and Leader Association meeting schedule, the July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025 Statement of Income and Expenses and the July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 projected budget. |PRESENT: Marilyn Pederson (Carson Climbers), Christine Keck (Casimer Boosters), Karen Jastromski and Liz Spoelstra (Tomorrow River Voyagers), Jan Miller (Rosholt Pioneers), Louise Skornia (Sunnyside Climbers), Kathy Glodowski (County-Wide), Agnes Mallek and Mary Ann Kuklinski (Junction City Golden Stars), Amy Konopacky and Trish Bey (River Valley Riders) and Amy Boelk, 4-H Educator. Guests: Abby and Tom Bey and Michelle and Mara Raddatz

PORTAGE COUNTY 4-H SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATIONS: After scholarship recipients Mara Raddatz and Abby Bey introduced themselves and shared their college plans, they were presented with scholarship checks. Christine Keck and Liz Spoelstra accepted the scholarship checks for their children Marie Keck and Noah Spoelstra who were not able to attend the meeting. |ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: CloverBud Day Camp, Summer Camp and Record Book Forms |MINUTES: Christine's name is spelled incorrectly under new business. Minutes were approved as corrected. |OFFICER REPORTS: Treasurer's Report: Checking account - \$22,572.08 Savings account - \$888.58 Treasurer's report was placed on file. |Secretary's Report and Correspondence: None

COMMITTEE/CLUB/LEADER REPORTS: County-Wide project workshops/meetings – 19 youth signed up for the Cake Decorating Workshop but only 15 attended. Workshop presenter, Lucy Gwidt, did a nice job. Her grandmother, Pat Mrozinski provided the frosting and cupcakes used during the workshop. Suggestion made to consider holding an Advanced Cake Decorating Workshop in the future. Speaking and Demonstration Workshop- not held due to lack of interest.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Speaking and Demonstration Contest-Friday, July 18th at 5:00 p.m. – Four youth registered for the contest. Amy has provided rosette ribbons for the participants. Contest will be held at the Amherst Fairgrounds. |Style Review Workshop – Wednesday, August 6th at 6-8 p.m. – Workshop will help build participant confidence. All sewing projects will be included in the Style Review, even the clothes horse project items. |Plat Book Photo Contest Deadline – Tuesday July 15th – Received 20 entries so far. |Other: Summer Camp -Three-day, joint camp with Waupaca and Iowa Counties. Weather was wet. Camp was well attended. Portage County had the smallest number of participants. Somewhere between 9 and 11 Portage County youth attended. Ideas for promoting increased camp participation were discussed. Suggestion made to include a camp video at the Leader Association banquet.

NEW BUSINESS: Approval of 2025-2026 Budget – Jan explained changes to this year's budget. Dues income and cost of insurance and literature have been removed from the Leader Association budget per changes in State 4-H policy. Funding for State and National 4-H Events has been changed. An application for funding will no longer be required. Leader Association will pay 35% of the trip costs. Motion by Kathy, second by Trish to approve proposed budget. Motion passed. |Bylaw Review and Revision Discussion - Officer Term Limits, Removal of non-policy language – A copy of the current Leader Association Bylaws was distributed to attendees. Per Amy, these bylaws are outdated and need to be revised. State 4-H Policy requires that Leader Associations include specific language in their bylaws. Recommendation made to form a committee to work on updating the Leader Association Bylaws. Bylaws need to be reviewed and updated, as needed, each fall as part of the 4-H Charter process. This policy also pertains to 4-H clubs. The State 4-H requires that all 4-H clubs have operating guidelines or bylaws that are reviewed every year and updated as needed. |Quarterly Meeting Structure Proposal – Looking for ways to increase participation at Leader Association meetings. Would like more participation from club leaders and 4-H youth. Proposal by 4-H Educator to decrease number of meetings held.

PORTAGE COUNTY 4-H LEADER'S ASSOCIATION MINUTES

July 2025 Continued

Concern expressed that quarterly meetings would not allow the Leader Association to make decisions in a timely manner. Suggestion made to make meeting atmosphere more friendly by holding meetings in a meeting place that allows participants to be seated close to each other and does not restrict the ability of the organization to include refreshments as part of their meeting. Rotating the location of the meeting could also be an option. Per Amy, hot spots allow the use of zoom anywhere.

Cloverbud Day Camps – Due to time restrictions, a CloverBud Day Camp will not be held this year. Amy is working with Lisa Henriksen to provide County CloverBud Events.

Other: Record Book Forms – Forms are being revised. Focus is on skills. Per Amy, leaders will receive draft copies by the end of the month.

EDUCATOR UPDATES:

AFR Documents Due by Monday, August 25th

AFR /Charter Work Night on Wednesday, August 13th 6-8 p.m. Participants should bring all their financial documents. Auditors will be available to review and sign completed financial reports.

Calendar Planning/Plan of Work for 25-26 4-H Year – Upcoming changes to 4-H project areas. A 4-H Family Kick-Off meeting has been scheduled to discuss changes.

Next Leader Association Meeting Date – September 15, 2025

Adjourn – Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Yours in 4-H

Marilyn Pederson



Look at these gorgeous flower beds in front of Kennedy school in Junction City! The Junction City Golden Stars 4-H Club plant, maintain and care for these beautiful flowers and they are clearly thriving!

Portage County Extension Staff

- Mallory McGivern, Interim Area Extension Director
- Amy Boelk, 4-H Program Educator
- Katie Livernash, Community Development Agent
- Penny Schmitt, Nutrition Educator, FoodWise

Extension Support Staff

- Denise Rocha, Family Living / Agriculture
- Lisa Henriksen, 4-H / Community Development

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Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/portagecounty4h>



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