

To All Columbia County 4-H Families and FFA Advisors

From: Pat Wagner, 4-H Positive Youth Development Educator, Columbia County

A Note from Pat:

With last week's cancellations of both the Columbia County Fair and the Lodi Ag Fair comes a sense of loss as we all look forward to these events to showcase our project work and spend time with families and friends who love to do the same. Please take time to acknowledge the loss and then let's see what we can re-imagine in 4-H moving forward in 2020. Several events in spring were postponed and, once a better understanding is gained about what kinds of meetings and how many people can attend in the Columbia County Administration Building, some of those may be re-scheduled. We learned from Extension leadership that 4-H and Extension meetings will not happen in June; therefore, we need to continue to consider the possibilities which teleconferencing may present. Please watch your email for these opportunities and/or contact me at 608-742-9685 or [pat.wagner@wisc.edu](mailto:pat.wagner@wisc.edu) if a county committee might want to set up a teleconference (both the Dog Committee and the Livestock Committee met via Zoom last week) or an individual or a 4-H club might want to share a skill they've learned through a 4-H demonstration during a Zoom meeting. Details are shared below on how to create a Zoom meeting. Anyone can create a FREE zoom account by visiting the [zoom.us](https://zoom.us) website. The great thing about zoom is it allows participants to use their computer video and audio or they can call in and use their telephone (cell phone or land lines are all accepted). If you want to try this opportunity, simple instructions are shared in the "technology" article below and/or give me a call at my office number and I'll be glad to help. My office number is being forwarded to my home number. If I miss your call, I'll return a call to you at my earliest convenience. Please note: During the week of Memorial Day, I will be taking vacation days to hopefully finish a home remodeling project. I'll have limited access to my email. Then, beginning June 1<sup>st</sup>, I'll be available again full-time.

For now, enjoy Spring and Stay Healthy!

Here is your weekly update of 4-H happenings both county-wide and state-wide. In order of appearance:

Click the topic below you are interested in and you will be directed to that topic's information.

[Interested In Sharing Your 4-H Project Expertise With Others – Let's Get You Teaching Columbia Co. 4-H Dog Project Message about Summer 2020](#)

[Marketing Your Meat Animals Without A County Fair – Things to Consider NOW](#)

[Heart of the Farm – Women in Agriculture introduces online 'Coffee Chat' series](#)

[UW-Madison Virtual Farm Tours – Recordings Are ONLINE!](#)

[Upham Woods Announces: Earth Stories Exchange](#)

[Delivering 4-H Through Technology!](#)

[Fun, Hands-on Learning at Home resource web page is live!](#)

[2020 Youth Plant Science Day](#)

[Cloverbud Day —Rescheduled to August 10<sup>th</sup> @ MacKenzie Center](#)

## Interested In Sharing Your 4-H Project Expertise With Others – Let’s Get You Teaching

Youth and adults interested in sharing what they know about a particular 4-H project, please contact Pat Wagner and she’ll help you get a virtual 4-H project meeting set up. Contact her at [pat.wagner@wisc.edu](mailto:pat.wagner@wisc.edu) or call at 608-742-9685.

## Columbia Co. 4-H Dog Project Message about Summer 2020

Hello all,

Thank you for those that attended the Zoom meeting earlier this evening.

Here is a summary of what was discussed:

The Lodi Ag. Fair, Columbia County Fair, State 4-H Dog Show and State 4-H Agility show have all been cancelled for 2020. The State Dog Show and Agility Show are planning on adding a class, for next year's show, to allow those members who's last year of showing would have been 2020 to be able to participate.

As of right now we are not yet able to gather in any numbers. We had hoped to be able to meet in groups of 10 starting in June but that is not being allowed by the State 4-H.

Keep checking the Columbia County Dog Project Facebook page for posts of things you can do with your dog.

One resource is from the Dane County Dog Project. They have set up videos for dog project member to watch and do at home. Follow this link: <https://flipgrid.com/danecounty4hdog>

And enter the password: Dogproject1

For those interested in learning how to stack their dog for Showmanship here is a link from AKC about Jr Confirmation - <https://link.akc.org>. It is a free program (you do have to set up an account).

Suggestions were given to have another Zoom meeting and do "Simon Says" with your dog, or have a trivia night. Another suggestion was to have members post videos of them teaching their dog a trick or showing off different tricks your dog has learned. One other suggestion was to see if we could have a virtual dog class (any topic).

If anyone has more suggestions please let Sandy or myself know.

We also discussed the need to look at purchasing more show ring mats. If the Columbia County Fair Board does let us use the Commercial Building for our show in 2021 we will need to borrow or purchase mats to use on the very slippery floor. We had planned to borrow mats this year. We do have some money set aside for the purchase training equipment. Those that attended the meeting thought it would be a good idea to start looking for new or used thin mats. We may need to do some sort of fundraising for mats but we will address in the future.

Keep training/working with your dog!

Maureen Heider, Columbia Co. 4-H Dog Project Leader

## Marketing Your Meat Animals Without A County Fair – Things to Consider NOW

The Columbia County Livestock Committee met Thursday evening, May 21<sup>st</sup> to discuss “where we go from here.” The group asked that I share out their thoughts related to “marketing your meat animals without a county fair.”

With the cancelling of both the Lodi Ag Fair and the Columbia County Fair, youth must now find outlets for their meat animal projects. Have you given this any thought? If not, NOW is the time as many meat processing establishments are booking up well into next year. Don’t panic as several local meat processors still have some slots available around the times the Lodi Ag Fair and the Columbia County Fair were to take place, but they are

filling up fast. See the link here for the Department of Ag Trade and Consumer Protection list of Wisconsin Meat Establishments – Inspected and Custom

Directory: [https://mydatcp.wi.gov/documents/dfrs/Meat Establishments Inspected and Custom Directory.pdf](https://mydatcp.wi.gov/documents/dfrs/Meat_Establishments_Inspected_and_Custom_Directory.pdf)

### [Meat Establishments – Inspected and Custom Directory](#)

Meat Establishments – Inspected and Custom Directory 5/20/2020 7:00 PM. License Plant Number Inspected/Custom Service Doing Business As Business Location Address Business County ... Meat Establishments – Inspected and Custom Directory 5/20/2020 7:00 PM. License Plant Number Inspected/Custom Service Doing Business As Business Location ... mydatcp.wi.gov

Contact your 4-H club leader, FFA advisor, or fellow 4-H / FFA members and their families for suggestions if you are new to this process. Many meat animal project members will have recommendations of meat establishments which are tried and true. NOW is the time to do that research. Please don't wait until the end of July. Some livestock committee member suggestions were: Lodi Locker Market, Prem Meats, Hoesly's Meats, Johnson's Sausage Shoppe, Baraboo, Grauvogl's Meat Service, Country Meat Cutters, Leroy Meats, Straka Meats, Wisconsin River Meats – to name a few.

Suggestions from the Livestock Committee included:

- Understand what you have to offer local buyers – freezer meat by the ¼, ½ or whole animal.
- Understand what it costs to “harvest” a meat animal, so you can explain to your buyers.
- Find a Wisconsin Meat Establishment and make an appointment for the harvest of your meat animal(s) – see link above.
- Identify individuals who may want to purchase freezer meat—give them a call or text them
- Don't know anyone off hand who would be interested in freezer meat – try a Facebook post or some other form of media post.
- Write a letter to one of your previous Sale of Champions buyers or give them a call. They may still be interested in supporting your meat animal project work and purchasing freezer meat.

Learning to market your own meat animal project will be a great addition to your life skills tool box. Best of luck moving forward and watch for suggestions to come your way for things to do at fair time while we are social distancing at home. Take care and stay healthy!

### [Heart of the Farm – Women in Agriculture introduces online ‘Coffee Chat’ series](#)

University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension's Heart of the Farm-Women in Agriculture program began hosting a new online 'Coffee Chats' series in various locations, times and dates across the state in mid-May. This Extension program addresses the needs of farm women by providing education on farm business topics, connecting them with agricultural resources and creating support networks.

Due to COVID-19, the in-person 2020 Heart of the Farm – Women in Ag Conference was not able to be held, so an online version was developed to connect! The Heart of the Farm Program is currently offering individual “Coffee Chats” throughout the state at seven different locations, dates and times. The online meeting lineup continues to be all “coffee chats” so individuals can choose the day/time/topic that works in their schedule.

· **Communications: Exploring Perspectives to Improve Communication--May 18th – May 23rd and May 27th**

Join us as we dive into the topic of effective communication skills. At this first session, we will explore how to listen for and respond to each other's different perspectives to deepen the understanding of the issues at hand and help guide decision-making.

· **Relationships: Nurturing Healthy Relationships Under Times of Stress: Bidding for Connection--May 25th – May 30th, June 10th**

During this session learn what bids for connection are and why they matter in building and maintaining a healthy relationship. Participants will learn how to respond and bid for connections in positive, healthy ways.

· **Financial: Finding Financial Well-Being--June 1st – June 6th and June 24th**

People who feel good about their finances have four things in common. We'll explore what those four factors are and ideas to find your own path to financial well-being. Spoiler alert – you don't need money to get started!

**You must register for the individual "Coffee Chat" you are interested in attending.** Registration information can be found on the Heart of the Farm Website: <https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/heartofthefarm/> or contact Jenny Vanderlin, [jenny.vanderlin@wisc.edu](mailto:jenny.vanderlin@wisc.edu), 608-263-7795. Once registered, you will receive meeting connection information (website link and phone number). Registered participants will only need the meeting website link or phone number to participate in the meeting.

## **UW-Madison Virtual Farm Tours – Recordings Are ONLINE!**

If you missed the Virtual Farm Tours in April (described in image below), you can now find their recordings in 2 places. These virtual tours were for kids who are engaged in animals, plants (agronomy) and science STEM. The programs are for viewers of all ages.

1. The website post: <https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/youthlivestock/2020/04/15/virtualfarmtours/>
2. The playlist of all of the videos on YouTube.

[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLI3EqGUag9cz\\_1DCKOLL5KSMtwm1SyuKT](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLI3EqGUag9cz_1DCKOLL5KSMtwm1SyuKT)

**WISCONSIN** UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON  
2020 Virtual Farm Tours featuring Arlington & Lancaster Research Stations  
Fridays from 1-2 p.m. CST

Register by going to the link.  
Zoom connection information will then be emailed to you!

April 17 – Sheep Unit, Todd Taylor  
<https://bit.ly/sheepunit>

April 24 – Swine Unit, Kadi Walsh  
<https://bit.ly/swineunit>

May 1 - Arlington & Lancaster Beef Units, Caleb Karls & Arin Crooks  
<https://bit.ly/beefunit>

May 8 – Farm Center, Feed Mill, Test Plots; Mike Bertram & Jeff Booth  
<https://bit.ly/farmcenter>

<https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/youthlivestock/>

Bernie O'Rourke, [borourke2@wisc.edu](mailto:borourke2@wisc.edu), Extension Livestock Specialist

## Upham Woods Announces: Earth Stories Exchange

Residential camp programs may be cancelled at Upham Woods, but going outside is still important. Consider this “earth stories exchange” as a way be part of the “outdoors” while practicing social distancing.



The Earth Stories Exchange is Upham's commitment to connecting people to the Earth through the healing power of nature. All you have to do is explore nature, create a story, share it with us, and we will share a story with you in return- like pen pals! We would love to see all sorts of stories, so please share this with your friends and family! Keep an eye on our Facebook page for featured stories (it could be your story). We look forward to exchanging Earth stories with you! Check out the Facebook event for more information!

<https://www.facebook.com/events/282084302784256/>

### Delivering 4-H Through Technology!

Below you will find a link to help you stay connected with members using Zoom. The website contains information on how to set up a Zoom Basic Account, the Basics of Using Zoom and Tips for Engaging 4-H Youth in Online Learning. Please give it a try.

<https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/wi4hvolunteers/delivering-4-h-through-technology/>

Wisconsin 4-H uses Zoom for meetings and educational learning opportunities. *Remember when participating in a 4-H meeting, whether in person or virtually, the 4-H volunteer expectations and 4-H youth member code of conduct apply.*

*Below are two YouTube videos created by Wisconsin 4-H Youth Development staff to help volunteers utilize Zoom as a teaching platform.*

### Zoom 101 Trainings:

- [Creating your Own Zoom Basic Account](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yWxJFLpiPbk&feature=youtu.be)
  - [Basics of Using Zoom](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nQUuGWtPAco&feature=youtu.be)
- Engaging 4-H Youth through Virtual Meetings/Learning Opportunities**

Technology offers a venue for youth voice and discussion. Below you will find information on how to host and conduct 4-H meetings in a safe and educational way. This tip sheet will provide best practices for you as a volunteer when meeting with youth.

#### **Tips for Engaging 4-H Youth in Online Learning --**

<https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/wi4hvolunteers/files/2020/04/4-h-online-learning.pdf>

(This material is shared with permission from Iowa State University Extension and Outreach).

## **Fun, Hands-on Learning at Home resource web page is live!**

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

As always, Extension and 4-H want to support youth and families with fun, hands-on learning that helps young people build life skills like critical thinking, problem solving, and decision making. World events are making things more challenging right now. But we don't let that stop us!

Extension educators from around the state created a handy list of easy-to-access activities and curriculum (<https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/home-activities/>). The page is organized by grade level and is chock full of Extension and 4-H resources as well as high quality, fun, learning activities from a range of other sources. As you would expect, we focused as much as possible on experiential learning and fun. Then, to save you time, energy, and unnecessary worry, we:

- Filtered out many activities with hard-to-find supplies and those that needed a lot of adult supervision to be safe.
- Included activities that encouraged some kind of safe social connection and/or involved getting youth out of the chair and moving.
- Included high quality, inclusive, and accessible resources for all ages, including parents, caregivers, and families.

Click the link to see what's there now. Bookmark it to check back for new resources added later.

Fun, Hands-On Learning At Home: <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/home-activities/>

## **2020 Youth Plant Science Day**

Plan now to participate in the **State 4-H Plant Science Day** event to be held **Tuesday, July 9<sup>th</sup>** at the **Waushara County Fairgrounds in Wautoma (this event is currently scheduled to go on as planned)**. Youth in grades 3-13 can test their knowledge about plants while learning how to judge and identify a wide variety of plant specimens. Youth can also compete in photography, speaking, poster and floral arranging contests. For study guide information and to prepare for the contest see the **National Junior Horticultural Association** website at <http://www.njha.org/> For additional information contact Chuck Prissel at 715-485-8600 or [charles.prissel@wisc.edu](mailto:charles.prissel@wisc.edu).

You can find the registration information and brochure on the website

here: <https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/wi4haganimalscience/plant-soil-science/>

### Cloverbud Day —Rescheduled to August 10<sup>th</sup> @ MacKenzie Center

Continue planning for a Cloverbud Day on Monday, August 10<sup>th</sup> (as long as social distancing guidelines allow). The MacKenzie Center has changed the date in their calendar and anyone interested in serving in the capacity of youth counselor or adult volunteer should reach out to Pat Wagner at [pat.wagner@wisc.edu](mailto:pat.wagner@wisc.edu) or 608-742-9685. Registration materials will be created in JUNE and shared with youth via the Weekly Update or direct mail to youth grades K-2. This fun day of learning is something we hope to offer for 4-H youth and their friends at summer's end.

### Weekly Emails Online!

<http://columbia.uwex.edu/4-h-youth-development/4-h-calendar-of-eventsdeadlines/>