

To All Columbia County 4-H Families and Others

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



Wednesday's Word
From Pat!

Greetings!

Warmer weather is predicted for February 21st – Hope you'll consider attending the "Winter Day in the Woods" event we've created for Columbia County 4-H families to participate in on February 21st from 1 – 5 p.m. at the Upham Woods Outdoor Learning Center in Wisconsin Dells. Bring the family—Bring the 4-H Club—Get outdoors with your 4-H friends. Cost is just \$14.50 for the afternoon. Register in 4honline at your family member list!

Just in – Lodi Agricultural Fair has announced a change of dates for this year – The 155th Lodi Ag Fair will be held on September 2-5, 2021. See "special announcement" below!

Stay safe – Stay warm. It's going to be another "real" winter weekend and that's "Wednesday's Word From Pat!"

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

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

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[Warmer Days Ahead—Plan Now To Enjoy A Winter Day at Upham Woods – Feb. 21st--1–5 pm](#)

Columbia County 4-H has reserved the afternoon of February 21st for 4-H families to attend a “Winter Day in the Woods” from 1-5 p.m. Upham Woods Outdoor Learning Center is the camp Columbia County 4H members visit for summer 4-H camp. Check out their website at -- <https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/uphamwoods/> There will be opportunities to try out cross-country skiing, snow shoeing, broom ball, as well as experience nature along the Wisconsin River. The fee for the afternoon is \$14.50 per person (youth or adult). All can register whether a 4-H member, 4-H leader, parent, or sibling. Please complete the registration form at your family member list in 4honline. Once at your member list, scroll to the bottom of the page and look for the Columbia County 4-H Winter Day in the Woods event – February 21st. Complete the registration form and then mail your fee(s) to the Columbia County Extension Office, 112 E. Edgewater St., Rm. 212, Portage, WI 53901 by February 18th. Note: The fee of \$14.50 applies to both youth and adult participants. Maybe 4-H clubs want to plan their February gathering at Upham Woods. Social distancing and face coverings will be required during this event. If not a 4-H member or volunteer leader, follow these directions for registering in 4honline: **When you register those non-4-H members and volunteer leaders for the Upham Woods event, use the instructions here from the state 4-H office -- follow the instructions in the How to Register For An Event Without Enrolling at <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/4h-resources/how-to-register-for-an-event/> to create their record and register for the event. Basically, they add a member to the family and when asked how they want to participate (4-H Volunteer or just want to participate without becoming a volunteer) they should *choose participate without becoming a volunteer*. This participation role does not trigger the background check, trainings, or choosing club/projects. It will then take them to the family member list screen and then they can register just like an enrolled member.**

[The NEW 2021 Columbia County Plat Book Will Arrive This Week](#)

Mapping Solutions called yesterday to let us know that the “NEW” plat book is printed and will be shipped to the Extension Office this week. The plat book is sponsored by the Columbia County 4-H Leaders Association as a fund raiser for that organization. Plat Books will cost \$35 and are available at the Extension Office, Johnson Sales (Arlington) and the Farmers and Merchants Union Banks of Columbus, Friesland, and Fall River. The new plat book includes aerial photos of every township of the county in addition to the usual plat maps of each township. Get yours today and support Columbia County 4-H in the process. These make great gifts for friends, family and neighbors!

[Webinar – Feeding and Caring For Swine Without Ractopamine – February 11th](#)

The Wisconsin Youth Livestock Program (WYLP), in connection with the University of Wisconsin Madison Animal & Dairy Sciences Department, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, and Division of Extension, are excited to offer this LIVE Virtual Zoom educational program tomorrow. This session begins at 7 p.m. CST with a presentation followed by Q&A. You must register in order to receive the connecting information through email. For more detailed information on each presentation and to register for any or all of the events, please go to <https://go.wisc.edu/r3x8lh>. On this webpage, you can also complete an educational verification form and turn it into your county fair and or livestock committee to verify your participation. These activities can serve as “county educational requirements”. However, there are no educational opportunities that can substitute for YQCA certification.

February 11 - Feeding & caring for Swine without Ractopamine

Speakers: Dr. Steven Moeller, Ohio State University
Dr. Joel DeRouchey, Kansas State University

There will be future livestock related topics of interest to youth and adults alike. Sessions were planned and will be presented on the 2nd Thursday of the month from January through May. For more information, visit <https://go.wisc.edu/r3x8lh> or contact Bernie O'Rourke, UW- Madison Animal & Dairy Science Extension Youth Livestock Specialist at (608) 263-4304 or borourke2@wisc.edu. All webinars are being recorded and recordings can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1mPVKo63rmBr5s3kFyvX9g>

Columbia County 4-H Scholarship Applications Released for 2021

The Columbia County 4-H Leaders Association, Inc. is offering a maximum of ten (10) \$300 scholarships. These scholarships will be divided between graduating high school seniors currently enrolled in 4-H and 4-H alumni. A maximum of two (2) male and two (2) female applicants may be eligible for the \$500.00 Comstock scholarships, which are given instead of the Columbia County 4-H Leaders Association scholarship. Deadline is March 15, 2021! Find application information at the link her or request from the Columbia County Extension Office at 608-742-9680 -- <https://columbia.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-youth-development/4-h-forms/columbia-county-4-h-scholarship-forms/>

WI 4-H Art Teams Application Deadline Extended to February 15

Get involved in a strong community of youth leaders around the state. Youth in grades 9-13 are invited to apply for membership on our State 4-H Art Team, Communications Team, or Drama Company for 2021! These statewide arts opportunities are a great way to expand your interest and skills in the arts, further develop your leadership skills, connect with incredible youth and adult leaders from around the state, and have FUN!! Please consider taking time to apply...you won't be disappointed that you did. For more information about the State Art Teams: <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/statewide-events-and-opportunities/state-arts-teams/>.

Camp Counselor Training – Chance to Participate and Chance to Share Your Knowledge and Expertise

This year Upham Woods is partnering with UW—Madison Extension colleagues to offer a virtual **Camp Counselor Training Program**. This training will help both beginning counselors (as participants) and experienced counselors (as leaders) to be ready to serve as a counselor during Summer Camp 2021. This opportunity is open to all youth leaders, whether your group camps at Upham Woods or elsewhere. It is also open to adult volunteers and extension staff. Registration can be found at: https://www.regpack.com/reg/templates/build/?g_id=100901680

Each certified Summer Camp Counselor through the Upham Woods Counselor Training Program will complete a Camp Counselor Workbook that follows asynchronous, pre-recorded training videos based on training topics. Counselors will connect with each other, discuss the topics, and ask questions during one of the synchronous, discussion sessions on March 27 or April 17, 2021. *Virtual attendance at one of these sessions is required for all counselors.* The workbook should be finished before counselors-in-training attend a synchronous training session.

Upham Woods is also seeking experienced camp counselors and camp staff input and expertise on any summer camp topic. Please consider submitting a training video or attending any of our synchronous sessions as a leader to answer questions and/or facilitate discussion. If you want to film your training video at Upham Woods, no problem! Let us know, and we will meet you there and help you film with our equipment! Submit a presenter proposal form [here](#).

Teaching and Leading with the Virtual Learning Community

In order to continue building out a community of learning around the state, we need Youth Leaders and Adult Volunteers! If you have an interest or passion and are willing to share it with others, we'll help YOU make it work in a virtual space. We are committed to ensuring that anyone who wants to find an engaging, educational, and FUN online connection will be able to do so easily. We hope you will help us make it happen by sharing your project expertise! To learn more about the opportunity, check out the Virtual Learning Community [Website](#).

Global Citizenship Winter/Spring Pen Pal Program

The WI 4-H Global Citizenship Winter/Spring Pen Pal Program is a special opportunity for WI youth to connect with youth from around the state, country and world!! It will run from March-May. If you are interested in participating, please

complete the interest [form](#). We will be gathering interest through February 20 and then matches will be made by March 1. Information regarding matches will be sent by March 5 and then participants will connect and make friends by sending at least two messages per month in March, April and May.

February – Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month

February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month, and Hope House of South Central Wisconsin has assembled some [great resources](#) for teens, their parents/guardians, and youth service providers. This year's theme is #KnowYourWorth. All are invited to follow the Hope House [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages this month for content to share. For instance, Hope House share their [bitmoji classroom](#) on Facebook. Jess Kaehny, the Community Education Program Manager for Hope House of Southcentral Wisconsin, can be reached at her address, phone or email here -- 720 Ash Street/P.O. Box 557, Baraboo, WI 53913, 608-356-9123 x106, www.HopeHouseSCW.org.



Remembering the Past...Building for the Future!

******Special Announcement******

Our 155th Lodi Agricultural Fair will be held on Thursday, September 2nd thru Sunday, September 5th, at the Lodi Fairgrounds. This date change is only for the 2021 fair season. Please update your calendars to join us for some great family fun!

This decision was recently made with the interest of our community, volunteers, fair exhibitors and board members, as it gives us the best opportunity to host a full Lodi Agricultural Fair event. We will be contacting our volunteers and organizations soon, as well as, posting updated information.

If you would like to join our family of volunteers, please send an email to Secretary@lodiagfair.com or watch for our Lodi Ag Fair Facebook postings for notices of projects we are working on and in need of extra help. It is a great place to volunteer!

Thank You,

The Lodi Agricultural Fair Board

[4-H Members and Leaders Can Add or Drop 4-H Projects in 4-H Online Now Through 3/1](#)

The new version of 4honline has just released the option for 4-H members and leaders to add or drop 4-H project in 4-H online. This is consistent with the Columbia County 4-H policy where youth can add or drop projects until March 1. Families can edit projects by clicking **View** near the member name on the family member list screen and then clicking on **Projects**. There is now an **EDIT** button on the projects page. Clicking on EDIT will open a window similar to the add projects screen during enrollment. Then, add or drop projects. If questions, please contact the Extension Office for assistance.

One more thing -- Club leaders can download a Club Roster on their club manager screen. The roster lists all members who have started an enrollment this year with contact information. There is now a second page to the spreadsheet that lists the project selections. You can see the same roster by clicking on DOWNLOAD ROSTER on the club screen where you grant access to leaders and add projects to the club.

[Survey INPUT To Be Collected for Communication Arts AND Music and Drama Festival](#)

Several families expressed their thoughts about 2021 festivals for both communication arts and music and drama. A survey is being developed to gather more information for the creation of opportunities for youth to participate safely later this spring. Please watch for that survey in the next week or so.

[March and April 2021 Explore 4-H At Home Project Kits – Registration for March ENDS 2/15!](#)

Can't have an in-person 4-H project meeting, but still want to learn through 4-H. Why not sign up for one of the **Explore At Home 4-H Project Kits**? Columbia, Dodge and Sauk County 4-H Educators have created them just for you! There will be 3 kits created for each of the first 6 months in 2021. Each kit will include the supplies necessary to complete the learning experience in your home for the fee listed on the registration form. Sign up is open until **February 15th** for the March kits. The March and April, 2021 project kits are described below.

Register now at <https://forms.gle/aHXqAZvWcYZsUP827> . Remember, registration is due the month before for the kits listed – February 15th for the March kits and March 15th for the April kits. January kit registration is closed.



[Cloverbud—March 2021](#)

Using a variety of 4-H resources, you will get to try out a cloverbud learning activity in each of the major 4-H project areas -- animal science; arts and communication; family, home and health; mechanical science; natural resources; plant and soil science; and science and technology. Some activities will be items to make and others will be some things to try, learn and reflect upon.

[Aerospace—March 2021](#)

Join us as we explore the Sierra - Kilo - Yankee (SKY) with the aerospace project. You will learn how airplanes fly; discover what wings do; compare birds and planes; identify types of aircraft; build and fly a

kite; make and fly a paper helicopter; learn about the International Phonetic Alphabet and create a message to thank a volunteer; identify the parts of a plane; and design your own spacecraft!

Reduce, Reuse and Recycle—March 2021

Using a variety of resources that you have around the house, we will work to make some great projects. Some examples include decorating a bottle and adding flowers, cd coaster, tin can art, and more

Cloverbuds – April 2021

Using a variety of resources, you will get to try out some cloverbud **spring** activities. There are several different resources for cloverbud activities, some will be items to make, and others will be some things to try, learn and reflect. Some activities include: CD art with decorating CD and planting a seed, egg projects and more

Agriculture Science—April 2021

Looking for ways to learn more about agriculture and life science, consider this 4-H project kit. Learning activities will be from the Acres of Adventures 4-H project curriculum and will focus on learning from four categories:

- **All About Agriculture**--*Homegrown Play Dough; Bread Basket Weaving; and Tie Dye Agriculture (using natural dyes)*
- **Fast Food Agriculture**--*High Speed Mystery Foods*
- **Mystery Agriculture**--*Mystery Mush and Tofu Timber*
- **Plant Detectives**--*Seed Sort and Soil Sam*

Home Environment—April 2021

Welcome Home! Everyone wants a place or space they can call their own. Come and join us in the Home Environment project to help you personalize your space. We will explore basic design elements (color, texture, line, and style); develop organizational strategies; organize a space of your own; upcycle items for your space or for others; create a design element to thank a volunteer; design your ideal bedroom; and create multiple items to decorate and personalize your space.

Register at <https://forms.gle/aHXqAZvWcYZsUP827>

Wednesday Nite @ The Lab – A Part of the Wisconsin 4-H Virtual Learning Community

Join the Biotechnology Center every Wednesday night for Wednesday Nite @ The Lab! Each week features a speaker teaching about different science topics. These talks are available statewide and will be held on Zoom for the foreseeable future. Come join us!

See <https://science.wisc.edu/wednesday-nite-at-the-lab/> for the schedule of topics and registration links!

Summer Camp 2021

A Green-Columbia County Summer Camp 2021 as well as a Cloverbud Day Camp 2021 are learning events we would all like to see. Summer Camp is on the calendar for the second week in August, 2021, while Cloverbud Day Camp has yet to be scheduled. 4-H Program guidance will need to change in order for summer camp to be an overnight event and, if guidance doesn't change, we'll work with Upham Woods staff to consider something that follows program guidance and move forward. Until then, we still need to consider the camp support team.

If you are interested in weighing in on summer camp or cloverbud day camp 2021, please contact Pat Wagner at pat.wagner@wisc.edu to register to be a part of the Columbia County camp committee. A future planning meeting will be arranged for those interested in participating. Youth leaders and adult volunteers are encouraged to be a part of this group.

Youth Sought to Showcase Their Livestock Lessons – Create Lesson and Submit To Contest

The Wisconsin Youth Livestock Program is accepting the next round of Livestock Lessons now. Think about something you have learned in your animal science project or something you enjoy doing and prepare to share it. The Livestock Lessons contest is open to all youth who are interested in animal projects. Grades are based on the 2020-2021 school year. **Oral Video Presentations, Public Service Announcements (PSA), and SAE Google Slides must be submitted by March 5.** The top entries in each division will receive monetary awards and may be featured on Wisconsin Youth Livestock Program social media, YouTube channels and other media outlets. Additional program information and how to submit your Livestock Lessons can be found by going to the Wisconsin Youth Livestock Program site at the link here -- <https://bit.ly/LivestockLessons>. If questions, contact Bernie O'Rourke at borourke2@wisc.edu, UW Madison Animal & Dairy Sciences, Extension Youth Livestock Specialist.

Round 2 of the Wisconsin Livestock Lessons will include the following ways for youth to share their work:

For grades 3-8: (only one submission per category) (Juniors are grades 3-5 and Intermediates are grades 6-8)

1. An oral video presentation.
2. Written Public Service Announcement (PSA).

For grades 9-13: (only one submission per category)

1. An oral video presentation.
2. Written Public Service Announcement (PSA).
3. SAE Project Slides

2021 Wisconsin 4-H Foundation Scholarship Applications Now Being Accepted

The Wisconsin 4-H Foundation will award more than \$15,000 in scholarships to outstanding Wisconsin 4-H members and alumni pursuing higher education in 2021. To be considered for financial support, applications must be received by the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation via email by **Monday, March 15, 2021.**

Wisconsin 4-H Foundation scholarships are awarded to students based on demonstrated personal growth through 4-H, development and leadership in 4-H, academic performance, and future educational goals.

To be eligible for Wisconsin 4-H Foundation scholarships students must have been a Wisconsin

4-H member for at least three years; have a grade point average of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale, and be enrolled or planning to enroll at a university, college, or technical school during the 2021-2022 academic school year. Scholarship winners from previous years are not eligible to receive a second 4-H Foundation scholarship.

The application is a one-page resume and a one-page cover letter, both of which give the 4-H youth a chance to share their 4-H achievements, as well as their future plans. Applicants are asked to treat this process as if applying for a job. Cover letters and resumes must be submitted as one PDF document and emailed to scholarships@wis4hfoundation.org. For detailed information about what to include in and how to prepare the application documents, 4-H youth can visit www.Wis4HFoundation.org/scholarships. A panel of experienced youth educators will screen the applications and select finalists. Applications chosen as finalists will be ranked by a second panel comprised of 4-H and youth development experts. The 4-H Foundation will assign available scholarships to the top-ranking applications based on scholarship criteria. Applicants who are awarded scholarships will be notified by postal letter and email in May.

[Visit The New Wisconsin 4-H Website](#)

It's new! It's full of information! Find it at this link! <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/>

[Extension Program Guidance & Approval Forms For Face-to-Face Gatherings](#)

Whenever people are gathering in the name of 4-H, there needs to be an approved plan. 4-H members and leaders may be allowed to hold face-to-face gatherings in pods of 10 people or less and up to 50, but only if pods of 10 or less are arranged for. To accomplish this and receive approval, the following steps MUST be taken BEFORE the gathering occurs. Please request an Extension Program Guidance and Approval form from Pat Wagner and complete and return to her. Wagner will then submit the form to the *workflow* for approval by the UW-Madison Division of Extension 4-H Positive Youth Development Program. Once approval is received, the gathering may proceed. Following the gathering, a contact log must be submitted with names of all who were in attendance. If you have questions, feel free to contact Pat Wagner at 608-742-9685 -- pat.wagner@wisc.edu.

[Wisconsin 4-H FAQs Updated February 8, 2021](#)

The Wisconsin 4-H program just updated guidance for programming this week. Please see the link here <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-faqs-related-to-covid-19/>.

[Columbia County Extension Office Hours – 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. – We're Open!](#)

Sarah Millard, Administrative Assistant, and Lori Swanson, Administrative Assistant, as well as at least one of the Extension Educators are in the office Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily to serve our county residents. At other times, Extension Educators continue to work remotely using appropriate technology. Columbia County Extension is still only a phone call or email away--that has not changed. We are still able to provide up to date, University research-based answers and advice in a timely manner.

[Weekly Emails Online! https://columbia.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-events/4-h-calendar-of-eventsdeadlines/](https://columbia.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-events/4-h-calendar-of-eventsdeadlines/)