

# Wood County 4-H YOUTH CONNECTIONS



JANUARY 2026

400 Market Street | PO Box 8095 | Wisconsin Rapids WI 54495 | 715.421.8439



## TEEN WINTER CAMP 2026: THE AMAZING RACE

**FEBRUARY 13-15 | LIONS CAMP, ROSHOLT**

Join us for an exciting weekend of fun, challenges and life-sized adventures taking place both indoors and out! Experience *The Amazing Race* like never before, where you'll navigate through decisions, new activities and challenges while building friendships and leadership skills. Open to youth in grades 6-12

[Register here](#) before January 14th.

Don't miss this opportunity to play, grow, and make memories!

**TEEN  
WINTER  
CAMP**  
THE AMAZING RACE

Register By Jan. 14

Join us for an action packed weekend of fun, challenges, and life-sized adventures! Experience *The Amazing Race* like never before!

**February 13-15, 2026**

**Lions Camp, Rosholt**

**Open to Grades 6-12**

<https://bit.ly/TeenWinterCamp26>

### CONNECT WITH US!

Wood County 4-H, WI  
 4hwoodcountywi  
[woodcounty4h@woodcountywi.gov](mailto:woodcounty4h@woodcountywi.gov)  
<http://wood.extension.wisc.edu>

### 4-H PLEDGE:

*I pledge my HEAD to clearer thinking, my HEART to greater loyalty, my HANDS to larger service and my HEALTH to better living, for my club, my community, my country and my world.*

### WOOD COUNTY 4-H STAFF

Laura Huber, 4-H Educator  
Trina Bores, AmeriCorps Member  
Wendy Young, Support Staff



# JOIN THE SUMMER CAMP STAFF TEAM

Ready to make an impact *and have an unforgettable time doing it*? We're looking for enthusiastic teens (Grade 8+) and awesome adults to help create an amazing camp experience for our 4-H campers!

Spend three days outdoors, build leadership skills, make new friends, and be part of a fun, supportive team that truly makes a difference. Whether you love campfires, canoeing, crazy skits, or just cheering on young campers — you belong with us!

- **Teens (Grade 8+):** Apply to be part of the youth staff!
- **Adults:** Volunteer as part of our adult leadership team!

**[Sign up here before January 7th](#)**.

Let's make Summer Camp 2026 the best one yet!



**Join Us for an Unforgettable  
SUMMER CAMP STAFF EXPERIENCE!**

**Adults and Teens (8th–13<sup>th</sup> grade)**  
Are encouraged to apply to the  
Langlade, Marathon & Wood 4-H  
Summer Camp Staff!

**Sign Up By Jan 7th**  
More Information:  
<https://bit.ly/4-HCampStaffInfo26>

~ Exciting Outdoor  
Adventure Leading Youth!  
~ Creating Connections and  
life long memories!  
~ Training for Purposeful  
Roles at Camp

# MULTI-COUNTY FLAT STANLEY PROJECT!

Get ready for an exciting mail adventure with Flat Stanley and Flat Stella! In this fun pen pal project, youth in K - 2nd grade will send their own Flat Stanley or Stella to a new friend and receive one in return.

The Flat Stanley Project is a fun and creative way for Cloverbuds to explore new places, make new friends and practice writing all through the mail! Along the way, they'll share stories, take photos, and build excitement around reading and connection. It's a great way to bring learning to life, one envelope at a time!

[Register here before January 9th.](#)

## MY BEST ADVENTURES!

4-H Flat Stanley Project



**Register by:**  
Jan 9, 2026

SCAN ME




A Pen Pal program  
across 9 Counties  
Grades K-2  
Ages: 5-8




## 4-H Flat Stanley Project

**Important Dates:**

- Registration Opens: November
- Zoom Read-Aloud: Tuesday, January 6, 6:00 p.m.
- Registration Deadline: January 9
- Flat Stanley Mailed Out: Week of January 19
- Adventures Begin: When Stanley/Stella arrives!
- Return Flat Stanley: Week of February 9
- Zoom Share-Out Celebration: Sunday, February 22



Grades K-2  
Ages: 5-8



# MARKET SALE EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

Youth interested in participating in the Central Wisconsin State Junior Fair Market Sale must meet educational requirements each year.

- Attend a Mandatory informational/orientation meeting
- Complete YQCA Training
- Earn 3 additional educational credits

## **Informational/Orientation Meetings**

Two meetings will be offered:

- January 13 at Marshfield High School - enter at the commons
- January 26 at Auburndale High School

## **YQCA**

One more YQCA in-person workshop is scheduled at Mid-State Technical College in Marshfield. Registration is required for this session. To register, go to [cecourses.mstc.edu](http://cecourses.mstc.edu), click on "Search" and enter Keyword "YQCA" and find the class.

- March 4 at 7:00 pm

In-person workshops satisfy the requirements for exhibitors 18 years old and younger. Those 19+ must complete training online.

Reach out to a member of the Market Sale Committee with questions.



*Photos courtesy of Becky Bauer*

# WINTER WILDLIFE CAMP

## Join the Adventure at Winter Wildlife Camp!



Join us for an exciting day to explore the outdoors and learn about the winter wildlife of Wisconsin!

- **Includes:**
  - **Activities:** den building, animal signs hike, and crafts
  - **Food:** AM snack and lunch
- **Who:** Ages 7-11 (on the day of the event)
- **When:** Saturday, February 21, 2026, 10 AM – 3 PM
  - **Drop-off window:** 9:45 – 10 AM
  - **Pick-up window:** 3 – 3:15 PM
- **Where:** Upham Woods Outdoor Learning Center, N194 County Rd N, Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965
- **Cost:** \$45.00
- **Registration Deadline:** February 1, 2026



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UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



UPHAM  
WOODS

# WOOD COUNTY SERVICE PROJECT

## "I PLEDGE MY HANDS TO LARGER SERVICE ..."

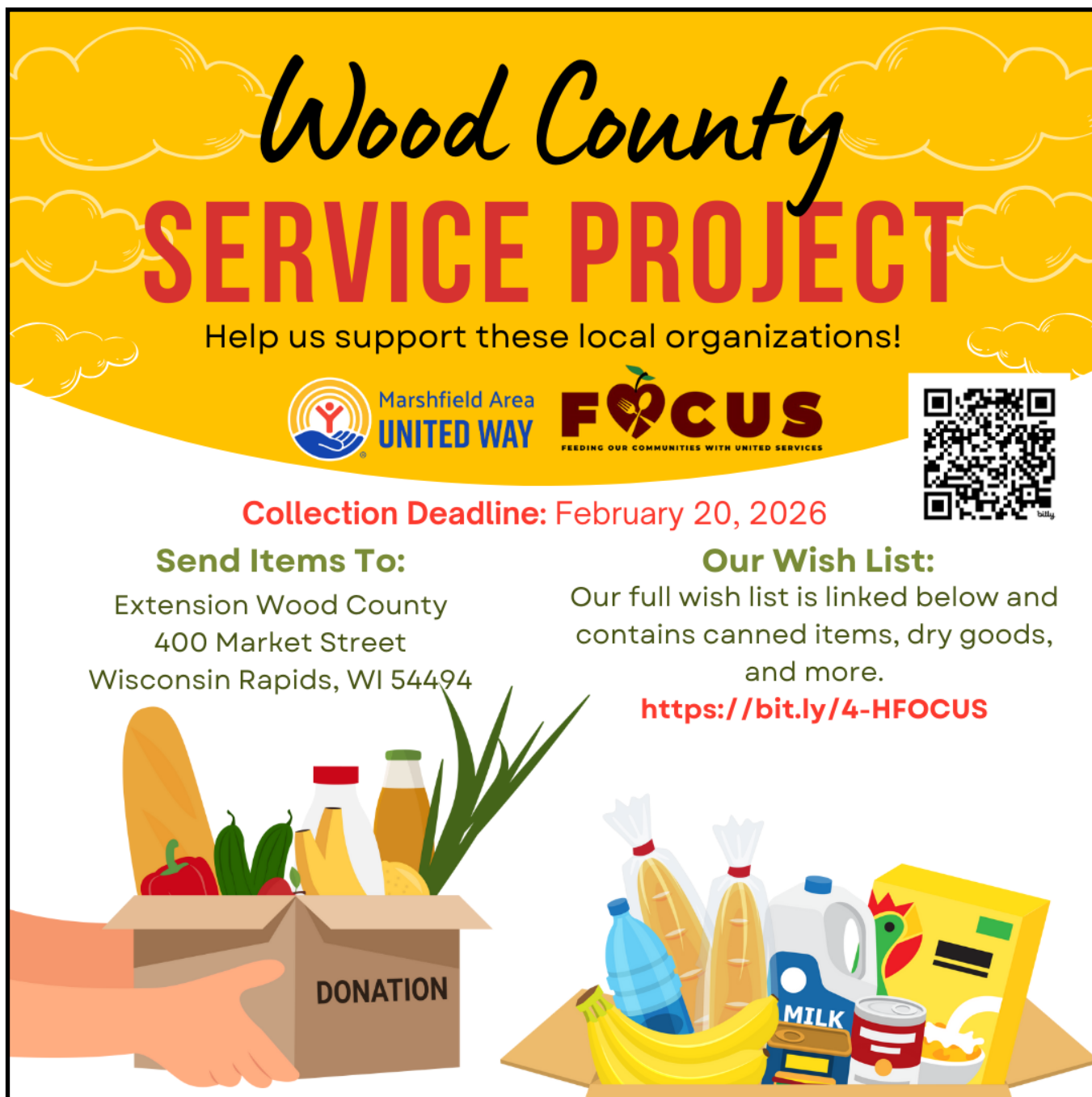
### *We still need your help!*

We are looking for specific food items so we can create meal kits to donate to two vital programs right here in our community.

Check out the wish list, grab an item (or two!) and help us make a local impact before the **February 20th deadline**.

We have selected items that can be used to make specific recipes; these items can be found on our wish list at <http://bit.ly/4-HFOCUS>. Items can be sent or dropped off at our office. Our goal is 200 meal kits!


**Watch for information on a future date to help sort and pack meal kits!**





The poster features a yellow background with white clouds. At the top, the text "Wood County" is written in a large, black, cursive font, and "SERVICE PROJECT" is in a bold, red, sans-serif font. Below this, it says "Help us support these local organizations!". There are two logos: "Marshfield Area UNITED WAY" and "FOCUS FEEDING OUR COMMUNITIES WITH UNITED SERVICES". A QR code is on the right. The "Collection Deadline: February 20, 2026" is in red. Under "Send Items To:", the address is listed. Under "Our Wish List:", a link is provided. At the bottom, there are two illustrations of food items: one in a box labeled "DONATION" and another in a box with various food items like milk, bananas, and cereal.

**Wood County**  
**SERVICE PROJECT**

Help us support these local organizations!

 Marshfield Area  
**UNITED WAY**


 **FOCUS**  
FEEDING OUR COMMUNITIES WITH UNITED SERVICES




**Collection Deadline: February 20, 2026**

**Send Items To:**  
Extension Wood County  
400 Market Street  
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

**Our Wish List:**  
Our full wish list is linked below and  
contains canned items, dry goods,  
and more.  
<https://bit.ly/4-HFOCUS>





# WINTER KICKBALL TOURNAMENT

FEBRUARY 21 | CWSF FAIRGROUNDS, MARSHFIELD



WOOD COUNTY 4-H

# WINTER KICKBALL TOURNAMENT

**FOOD**  
POT LUCK

**GAMES**  
INDOOR YARD  
GAMES

**HOT  
COCOA**

**02-21-26**

**9:30AM**

Hosted By:  
**Golden Glow  
4-H**

**JR FAIR BUILDING AND HORSE ARENA @  
FAIRGROUNDS IN MARSHFIELD**

**\$30/ TEAM**

**FOR MORE INFO CONTACT ANN LINDOW:  
CALL OR TEXT 715-819-6311**

**TEAMS OF 7-13 PLAYERS**

**ALL TEAM MEMBERS MUST BE WOOD  
COUNTY 4-H MEMBERS**

**NO LIMIT TO NUMBER OF TEAMS/CLUB**

In addition to kickball there will be games and activities in the Jr Fair building all day! Please bring a dish to pass for a meal follow burgers/hotdogs will be  
Provided by Golden Glow 4-H

# SAVE THE DATE—K-3 PROJECT DAY

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21 | GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH, MARSHFIELD**

Golden Glow will be hosting a Project Day just for our younger members in grades K-3.

The event will be open to all Wood County 4-H members in these grades. More details will be coming soon!



# ROLLER SKATING NIGHT

**SUNDAY, MARCH 1 | 5:00-7:00PM | MELODY GARDENS, MARSHFIELD**

*Roll into the fun with Wood County 4-H!*

Join us for Roller Skating Night at Melody Gardens in Marshfield, WI!

- \$2 admission includes skate rental
- Music, friends and tons of skating fun

**Register by February 20th:** <https://bit.ly/4-Hrollerskating>

Don't miss out—lace up and roll with us!

WOOD COUNTY 4-H

# ROLLER SKATING

NIGHT!

MARCH 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2026  
5:00PM - 7:00PM  
MELODY GARDENS  
MARSHFIELD, WI

\$2 ADMISSION  
& SKATES

REGISTER BY  
FEBRUARY 20TH

[HTTPS://BIT.LY/4-HROLLERSKATING](https://bit.ly/4-Hrollerskating)

# STATE LIVESTOCK EVENTS

Save the dates for these upcoming animal science education contests happening this winter and early spring. Watch for future posts with more information about registration and contest details.

Questions? For livestock contest connect with Bernie at [borourke@wisc.edu](mailto:borourke@wisc.edu) or Jill at [Jill.Jorgensen@wisc.edu](mailto:Jill.Jorgensen@wisc.edu).

For dairy quiz bowl, connect with Jill at [Jill.Jorgensen@wisc.edu](mailto:Jill.Jorgensen@wisc.edu) or Maya at [mwiltzius@wisc.edu](mailto:mwiltzius@wisc.edu).

## SAVE THE DATE

### STATE 4-H DAIRY QUIZ BOWL

FEBRUARY 7, 2026

UW GREEN BAY  
STEM INNOVATION BUILDING



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## SAVE THE DATES

### STATE 4-H LIVESTOCK EVENTS

**4-H MEATS JUDGING CONTEST**  
JANUARY 31, 2026

**SKILLATHON AND QUIZ BOWL**  
MARCH 21, 2026

BOTH EVENTS HELD AT THE  
UW MADISON CAMPUS



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If you are interested in being on a team for the Dairy Quiz Bowl, reach out to Matt Dorshorst at [matt.dorshorst@gmail.com](mailto:matt.dorshorst@gmail.com) before January 16th.

# STATE HORSE EVENTS

## SAVE THE DATES

### STATE 4-H HORSE EVENTS

**HORSE EDUCATION DAYS**  
MAY 2 & 3, 2026

**STATE HUNT AND DRESSAGE SHOW**  
JUNE 26, 27, & 28, 2026

**STATE GYMKHANA SHOW**  
SEPTEMBER 12, 2026

**STATE HORSE EXPO SHOW**  
SEPTEMBER 18, 19, & 20, 2026



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# HORSE & PONY PROJECT TACK SWAP

**SATURDAY, MARCH 14 | CWSF JUNIOR FAIR BUILDING, MARSHFIELD**

The Wood County Horse & Pony Project is excited to host their annual tack swap at the Marshfield Junior Fair Building once again this year. What's new? Food Trucks!

Vendor space is still available. For more information, contact Kate Kohl at 715.383.2018.



Wood County  
Horse & Pony  
Project



## Save the Date

**For our Annual Tack Swap  
& Bucket Raffle Fundraiser**

What will we have:

- Food Trucks
- Bake Sale
- Tack Swap
- Vendors
- Bucket Raffle

**Date:  
March 14, 2026**

More information to follow.

# THRIVENT GENEROSITY

Are you a member of Thrivent? Please consider working with Wood County 4-H to create a Thrivent Action Team. Together, we can make gather a team of youth and adult volunteers to do great work in our communities. Thrivent will donate \$250 for each event. That would go a long way in supporting the upcoming lasagna making day or our upcoming backpack meals programs.



Contact Laura for more information on how you can use your Thrivent membership to support 4-H'ers service learning efforts.

# EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES SCHOLARSHIPS

The Leaders Association Scholarship application for summer and fall educational experiences is now open. This includes 4-H National Congress and Summer Academy.

To learn more about these experiences and registration information, visit <https://wood.extension.wisc.edu/4-h/trip-applications/>

If you are considering attending one of these experiences, you should apply for a scholarship even if registration for the experience has not opened yet.

The scholarship application can be found online at <https://forms.gle/x2q4sJqDPeynCMS89>

**Application deadline is March 15th.**



# SHARE YOUR EVENT IN YOUTH CONNECTIONS!

Youth Connections is a great way to let 4-H'ers around Wood County know what your club or project group is up to. The newsletter is published and emailed to all 4-H families every month.

Submit your article, photos, and fliers to [woodcounty4h@woodcountywi.gov](mailto:woodcounty4h@woodcountywi.gov) by the 25th of the month and we'll include it in the newsletter and on social media.



# ARTBEAT REGISTRATION OPENING SOON!

**MARCH 14-15 | UPHAM WOODS, WISCONSIN DELLS**

## What is ArtBEAT!?

ArtBEAT! is an introduction to Wisconsin 4-H Expressive Arts & Camp/Overnight Experiences, open to 4-H members in grades 3-5, parents and approved volunteer leaders.

- Participants will explore different types of art (visual arts, drama, music, STEM) led by adult volunteers while having the camp experience of staying in cabins with high school counselors and adult chaperones.
- Youth participants will rotate through a variety of hands-on sessions held at various sites throughout camp, including outdoors (be sure to dress accordingly).

The graphic is a promotional poster for Art Beat. It features the title 'Art Beat' in large green letters with a paint palette icon. Below it, 'REGISTRATION OPENING SOON!' is written in bold green. Three red boxes with white text list: 'WHO: Youth in grades 3-5, parents, leaders', 'WHERE: Upham Woods Outdoor Learning Center', and 'WHEN: March 14-15, 2025'. A yellow box says 'REGISTER JAN. 12<sup>TH</sup> - FEB. 8<sup>TH</sup>'. The bottom right shows a photo of children at an art table. Logos for UW-Madison Extension and 4-H are in the top right.

Full details and more information can be found online at:

<https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/statewide-events-and-opportunities/art-beat/>

## REGISTRATION:

- Registration will be open in 4HOnline. Space is limited. Once the registration capacity is met, registrations will be placed on a waiting list in the order in which they are received.
- registration will open on January 12th and will remain open through Sunday, February 8th.

## COST:

- ArtBEAT! uses a tiered pricing model that allows families to pay what they are able. The tiered pricing structure for 2026 is \$125, \$150, or \$175. \$150 most closely represents the actual cost of ArtBEAT! programming. Parents are encouraged to attend as volunteers (\$75 required to cover meals and Upham day-pass). If volunteers choose to stay on Friday night with their children, an additional \$35/person will cover overnight and breakfast costs.

**Volunteers:** Parents are encouraged to attend and can sign up as adult volunteers or adult helpers (non-volunteer) through 4HOnline: [26wi4hartbeat.4honline.com](https://26wi4hartbeat.4honline.com).

**Questions:** Contact Laura Pine ([lpine@wisc.edu](mailto:lpine@wisc.edu)) or Jay Johnson ([jay.johnson2@wisc.edu](mailto:jay.johnson2@wisc.edu)) with any questions.

# FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY

Now is the perfect time to plan ahead and start fundraising if you are planning to attend summer camp or a state or national travel opportunity this 4-H year. The Teen Leadership Group has an opportunity to help you raise money to offset the cost! Funds raised are good for experiences and registration costs through 2026.


For every Kwik Trip Ultimate Car Wash Card you sell, you'll receive \$15 credit toward your 2026 experience! Each card includes 5 Ultimate Car Washes and is good at any Kwik Trip car wash. What's even better? Car wash cards don't expire—they just need to be used at least once every two years. **WOW!**

For more information about the car wash cardsale, please contact the office at 715-421-8439.

## CAR WASH FUNDRAISER

Sponsored by Wood County 4-H Teen Leadership Group

Wood County 4-H youth are selling Kwik Trip car wash cards to off-set the cost of educational experiences.



5-count ULTIMATE car wash cards **ONLY** \$36  
SAVE \$14 off regular price!


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**The Ultimate Car Wash includes:**

- Undercarriage Flush
- Presoak
- High-Pressure Wash or Soft Foam Wash
- Triple Shine Vehicle Enhancer/Cleaner
- Spot-Free Rinse
- 95-Second Super Dry

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**Cards are good at ALL Kwik Trip car wash stations.**



Make checks payable to Wood County 4-H Leaders Association

Cards on sale now!

An EEO/AAE employer, University of Wisconsin-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, and ADA requirements.



# SUMMER TRAVEL EXPERIENCES

## SAVE THE DATES

### 2026 4-H SUMMER TRAVEL EXPERIENCES



DISCOVER WI  
GRADES: 6-8

**July 7-9**

**SPONSORED BY:**  
LANGLADE  
MARATHON  
& WOOD

\*OTHER 4-H  
YOUTH INVITED

**WISCONSIN  
DISCOVERS**  
GRADES: 9-12

**July 21-24**



GET READY FOR ADVENTURE! WE ARE OFFERING TWO UNIQUE TRAVEL EXPERIENCES FOR SUMMER 2026 AND WE WANT YOU TO BE PART OF THE FUN!  
**DISCOVER WI** IS PERFECT FOR YOUTH IN GRADES 6-8, EXPLORING EXCITING DESTINATIONS ACROSS OUR STATE.  
OLDER YOUTH IN GRADES 9-12 CAN DIVE DEEPER WITH **WI DISCOVERS**, AN OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL OPPORTUNITY DESIGNED TO BROADEN HORIZONS.  
PACK YOUR CURIOSITY — LET'S EXPLORE TOGETHER!

**More Info Coming Spring 2026**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- **JANUARY 15:** Awards Committee Meeting; Hewitt Village Hall; 6:30pm
- **JANUARY 24:** Project Discovery Day, 2nd Street Community Center, Marshfield
- **JANUARY 26:** Leaders Association Meeting
- **FEBRUARY 13-15:** Teen Winter Camp; Wisconsin Lions Camp, Rosholt
- **FEBRUARY 14:** Grades K-3 Project Day; Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Marshfield
- **FEBRUARY 21:** Winter Kickball Tournament; CWSF Fairgrounds, Marshfield; 9:30am
- **MARCH 1:** Roller Skating Night; Melody Gardens, Marshfield; 5:00-7:00pm

## STAY CONNECTED WITH WOOD COUNTY 4-H

Be sure that you are staying connected and getting all the latest information and event details!

While we try to include everything in the newsletter, sometimes we like to send reminders or something exciting comes up between issues that we want to share right away.

Follow our Facebook and Instagram pages to make sure you don't miss an update.

Our web calendar is also updated in real time to look ahead at future events or to confirm event times and locations.

Online Calendar: <https://wood.extension.wisc.edu/4-h/>



**Wood County 4-H, WI**



**4hwoodcountywi**



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*The University of Wisconsin–Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming in compliance with state and federal law. You may request an interpreter, materials in an alternative language or format, or other services to make events or documents more accessible, by contacting Extension Wood County at 715-421-8440. There's no added cost to you for these services.*

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