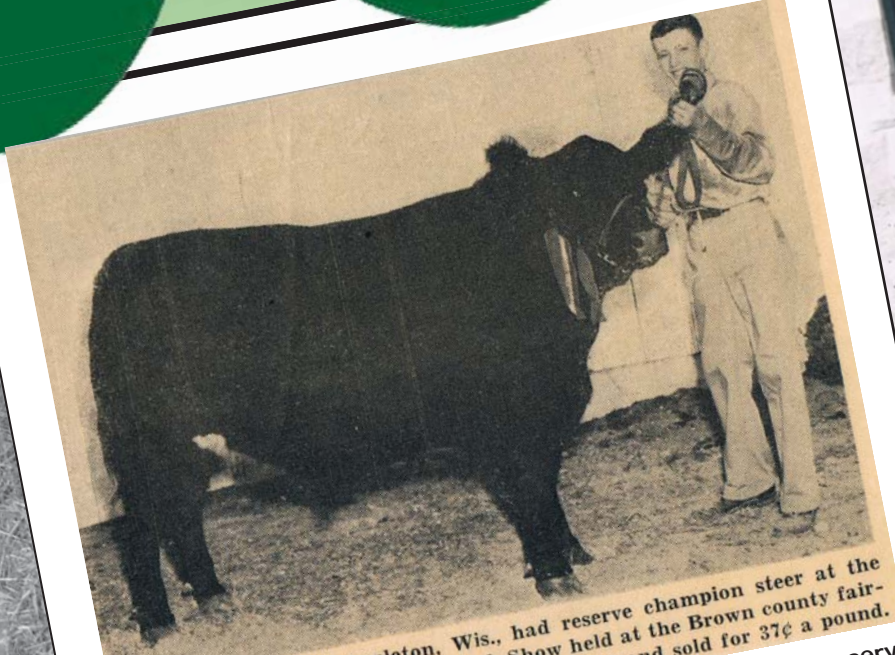


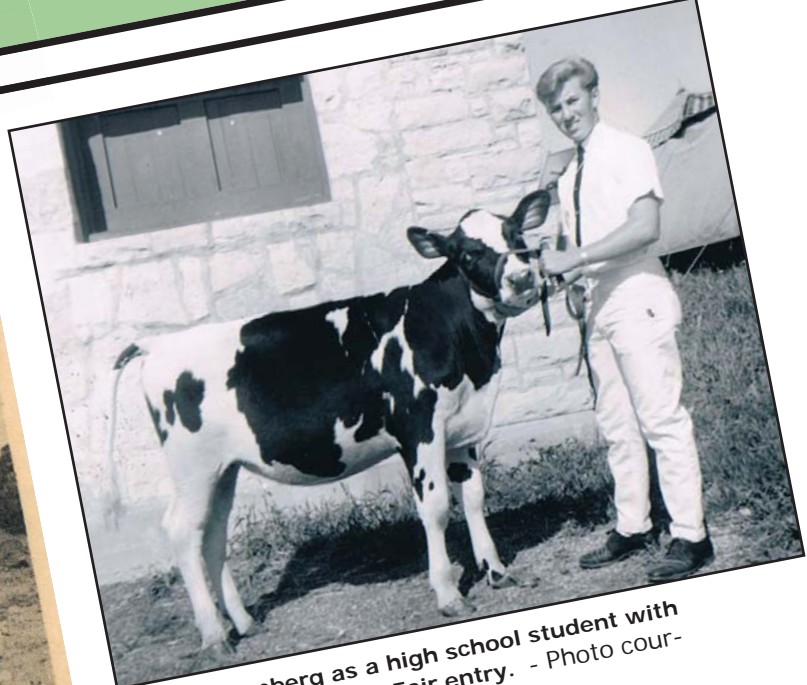
# I am 4-H.



Carl Schaumberg exhibits a calf when he was a boy. - Photo courtesy Carl Schaumberg



ROBERT PALTZER, Appleton, Wis., had reserve champion steer at the Northeast Wisconsin Junior Livestock Show held at the Brown county fairgrounds. The calf, Tom, was a summer yearling and sold for 37¢ a pound. Former Outagamie County Executive Toby Paltzer with his reserve champion steer. - Photo courtesy Toby Paltzer



Carl Schaumberg as a high school student with his Outagamie County Fair entry. - Photo courtesy Carl Schaumberg

Celebrating a Century of Empowering Youth to Reach Their Full Potential.

100 years



Monday, Oct. 13, 2014

A supplement to the **ADVERTISER COMMUNITY NEWS**





# Dedicated leaders, enthusiastic members equal a century of Outagamie County 4-H progress



“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.”



For more than 100 years, children across the country have been reciting this pledge as members of 4-H.

According to the national 4-H website, A. B. Graham started a youth program in Clark County, Ohio, in 1902, which is considered the birth of 4-H in the United States. The first club was called “The Tomato Club” or the “Corn Growing Club.” T.A. Erickson of Douglas County, Minnesota, started local agricultural after-school clubs and fairs that same year. Jessie Field Shambaugh developed the clover pin with an H on each leaf in 1910, and by 1912 they were called 4-H clubs.

In 1914, the Cooperative Extension System was created with the passage of the Smith-Lever Act which, in turn, created the Cooperative Extension System at USDA and nationalized 4-H. By 1924, 4-H clubs were formed and the clover emblem was adopted.

The Cooperative Extension System is a partnership of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) within the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the 109 land-grant universities and more than 3,000 county offices across the nation. Cooperative Extension combines the expertise and resources of federal, state, and local governments and is designed to meet the need for research, knowledge and educational programs.

4-H began in Outagamie County on September 25, 1925, with the first meeting of the Wide Awake Forward 4-H Club in the Town



Marion Wichman has been a leader at the Wide Awake Forward 4-H Club for more than 60 years. - Photo by Rick Cohler

of Greenville through the efforts of Mrs. John Schoettler, according to “Celebrating 75 years of Outagamie 4-H.” By 1934, there were 21 clubs in Outagamie County and today there are 23 active clubs.

Not only is Wide Awake Forward the oldest club in the county, Marion Wichman, who was club leader for six decades, claims the title for being the leader with the longest record of service.

But Mrs. Wichman’s involvement with 4-H began long before she was a leader.

“I started when I was 10 years old in 1941,” she recalled. “I belonged to the club until I was 21 then I was a project leader for clothing projects and eventually became a main leader. I just completed my 62nd year.”

Mrs. Wichman grew up as Marion Sommers, the daughter of Reinhard and Mildred on an 80-acre farm in the Town of Center.

“I took the home-ec projects, clothing and foods, showed sheep and dairy at the county fair and state fair.”

Mrs. Wichman has seen a lot of changes over the decades of 4-H.

“Way back, it was mostly farm kids, and gradually it became more urban kids,” she said. “They were more involved then because now they get busy in sports and other activities at school.”

One memory she recalled was when the clubs were small and met in members’ homes.

“We’d always meet on a Friday night,” she recalled. “The family that had it served a great big lunch, almost like a supper and the kids would run around outside and play hide-and-seek after the meeting. They were neighbor kids that you basically knew. Parents came and the kids had their meeting and it was a social event.”

Mrs. Wichman said she enjoys working with the members.

“I like teaching them to be responsible, when they make a commitment to carry it through,” she said. “To be honest and learn to work with other people, be good winners and good losers and help others.”

One of the things she has always liked about 4-H is that the variety of projects allows members to learn what they like, and what they don’t like.

“We had a girl who took a houseplants project and she found she didn’t like putting her hands in dirt, she said. “There’s nothing wrong with finding out you don’t like something.”

Two of her daughters have also been leaders in Wide Awake Forward. Denise Buss has been a project leader and Darlene Schroth was the

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main leader until recently.

Mrs. Wichman wouldn't trade her experiences for anything.

"It's been my life," she said.

While 4-H offers many projects, the fair is the annual highlight and culmination of those projects. The Outagamie County Fair in Seymour is one of the state's premier fairs and boasts a long relationship with 4-H.

Carl Schaumberg is not only the current president of the Outagamie County Fair Board, but has a long history with 4-H as a member of Wild Grove 4-H Club.

"I can remember starting as a third grader," Schaumberg said. "I took woodworking as my first project. I made three things that you wouldn't make any more; a door stop, a window stop and a stop for sawing boards. I learned how to use a cross-cut and a rip saw. It was a lot of sanding and a little varnish. If I remember right, I won a second and two third-place ribbons."

By his third year, he was taking cattle to the fair when he was about 13.

"I took one animal," Schaumberg said. "I never took anything to the fair which milked but I continued taking the offspring of the first one I had."

Schaumberg said his grandmother, Emma, was a big influence in his staying in 4-H.

"She always liked going to fairs," he said. "I guess it was also an encouragement to try dif-

ferent things."

Schaumberg said 4-H provided a basic background in everything.

"If you take the animal project, you have the feeding and care, financial records and competition," he said. "I can remember, as a Wild Grove member, we had one entire side of what is now the open class building at the fairgrounds."

Other memories include the trips, judging, the citizen short course in Washington, D.C., junior leaders and dances.

The highlight of the year was taking a project to the state fair in West Allis.

"We'd go to state fair and we'd stay in a dorm with a chaperone," Schaumberg said. "It was a big experience. Generally, older ones were the ones who got to go."

Now as a long-time fair board member and currently its president, Schaumberg is committed to keeping 4-H an integral part of the Outagamie County Fair.

"The majority of exhibits are from 4-H," Schaumberg said. "It's probably the biggest reason, other than our open-class dairy show that people come to the fair to see an exhibit."

"The fairs in the state are set up through the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. All fair rules and premiums are governed by state law. County Extension is pretty wide open as to what they want to have as far as programs. We've always supported whatever that's been. If

they want to add a new project we've been more than happy to have that."

The money the fair receives from the county is earmarked for youth, though Schaumberg said the fair spends more than that allotment on the junior fair.

Schaumberg said that while there are a lot of memories and history in 4-H and the fair, it remains a vital part today's life in Northeastern Wisconsin.

"If there's anyone who wants to exhibit, not only 4-H but open class, we're always looking for that," he said. "If you have something to exhibit there is probably a class for it."

In order to have a healthy 4-H program in Outagamie County, the organization needs support from parents, members, UW-Extension, which provides a youth agent who works with club leaders and others to keep 4-H a vibrant organization.

Bill Shaw, Appleton, was hired for that post in 1966 and served for about 30 years.

"I liked working with the county's resource leader staff," Shaw said. "These are people who have expertise in given projects and they can then teach other leaders."

"I also enjoyed working with the main leaders who deal with organization and leadership."

Shaw added that another highlight was working with youth at Camp Bird in Marinette County.

County government plays a role as well. As a member of the Outagamie County Board for five years and as county executive for 11 years, Robert "Toby" Paltzer was a good friend and strong supporter of 4-H.

Paltzer was also a long-time member of the organization.

"When we started we were in the Woodlawn 4-H Club," Paltzer said. "Woodlawn was a school on Highway 47, then when Grand Chute built a town hall, we moved there." Paltzer said there were a lot of families involved in the club. "Pretty well all of the families on the north side of Appleton were all in it together. I think that was how we got started. Later, I was club leader for a couple years."

After six-years in the U.S. Army, Paltzer returned to serve as a dairy and poultry leader in the club.

He and his wife, Carol, were the poultry lead-

ers for the Outagamie County Fair when the fowl was still housed in a tent.

"That was kind of a difficult time, because at night sometimes some of the chickens and rabbits were stolen," he recalled with a chuckle. "It was not secure. When they built the new building we were so happy! I can remember being in that tent with all those chickens, ducks and turkeys."

"I was always big in dairy and beef. Then we started getting into chickens, turkey and ducks. My grandkids exhibited chickens at the fair."

As a leader in county government, Paltzer said he kept a close eye on youth projects and said he has seen a big change in 4-H over the years.

"Projects changed in 4-H and dog and cat have become huge," Paltzer said. "More kids want to take their dog and cat and now they have the small animal projects like canary, gerbils, guinea pigs that kids can take to the fair."

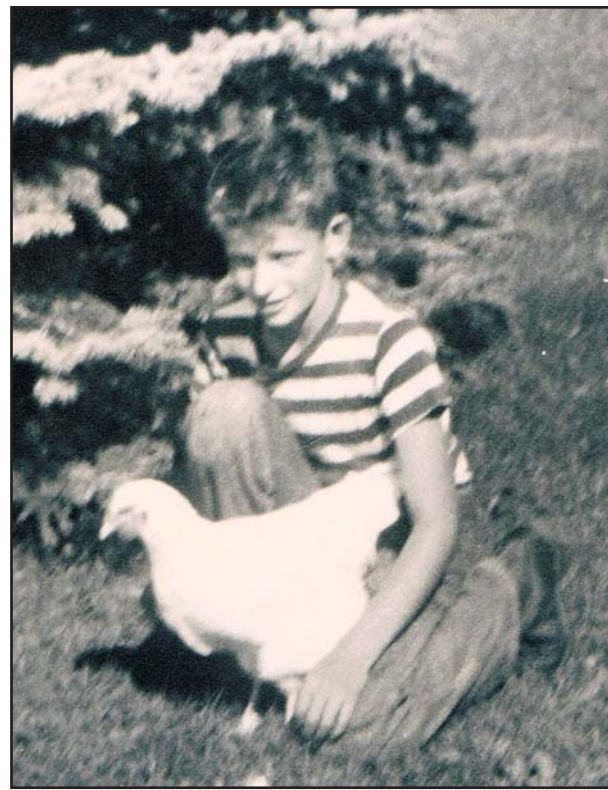
Paltzer served as a mentor to the junior leaders, 14-19 year olds, for 25 years.

"I love talking to the high school kids," Paltzer said. "I learn so much

about them. "All the high schools are different. They all have different programs and they all talk to me about issues with their high schools so I was able to understand teenage problems as a county executive."

Paltzer said he sees 4-H as an excellent way to bring up children to become strong, responsible adults.

"I have seen some dynamic young people leave 4-H and they get married. I see them in the store with two little kids and they're teachers and they're firefighters and they're police officers and you see how they really developed and grew. It gives me a great satisfaction that once upon a time they were in a 4-H club."



Former Outagamie County Executive Toby Paltzer exhibited chickens at the fair when he was a boy. Photo courtesy Toby Paltzer

**Outagamie County Proclamation**

Whereas, Thomas L. Bewick was appointed Wisconsin's first State Leader of Boys' and Girls' 4-H Club Work with the new Cooperative Extension Service in July 1914 and organized the first 4-H club under Cooperative Extension in Walworth County in October 1914; and

Whereas, 2014 marks the 100th anniversary of this unique partnership between the counties of the state, the University of Wisconsin-Extension and Wisconsin 4-H Youth Development; and

Whereas, this partnership of University of Wisconsin campuses, the University of Wisconsin-Extension and county-based 4-H Youth Development programs embodies the true meaning of the "Wisconsin Idea" - that the resources of the university shall be extended to the people of the state where they live and work; and

Whereas, Wisconsin 4-H Youth Development's purpose is to help youth learn leadership, citizenship and life skills, develop new skills, become leaders and help shape their communities; and

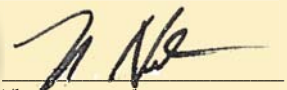
Whereas, the vitality of today's Wisconsin 4-H Youth Development program as well as 4-H's national reputation as the largest out-of-school educational organization can be credited to the men and women of vision who accepted the challenge in 1914 to help grow 100 years of Wisconsin leaders; so

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that I, Thomas M. Nelson, Executive of Outagamie County, Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim Saturday, July 26, 2014 as

**4-H Centennial Day**

in Outagamie County, and I call upon all citizens to recognize local 4-H Youth Development Extension educators for their leadership, cooperation and support, which allows the youth and families of Outagamie County and to apply the research and knowledge of the University of Wisconsin to help build strong leaders for tomorrow.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, this 26th of July in the year two thousand fourteen

  
Thomas M. Nelson  
Outagamie County Executive





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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."*

**For Information Contact:**  
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Ava Lorenz and Ava Lorenz  
Wolf River Beavers 4-H Club, are pictured.



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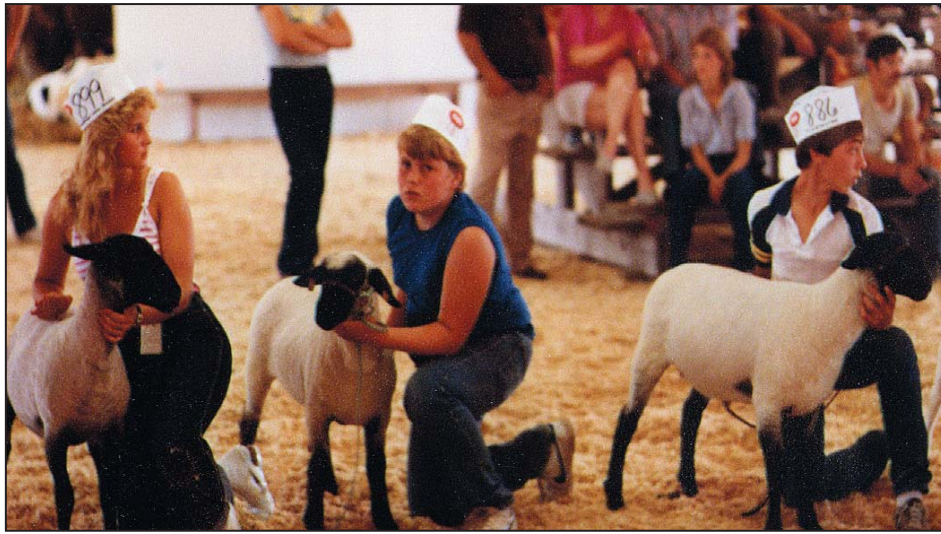
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# 4-H Centennial

## Empowering Wisconsin Leaders

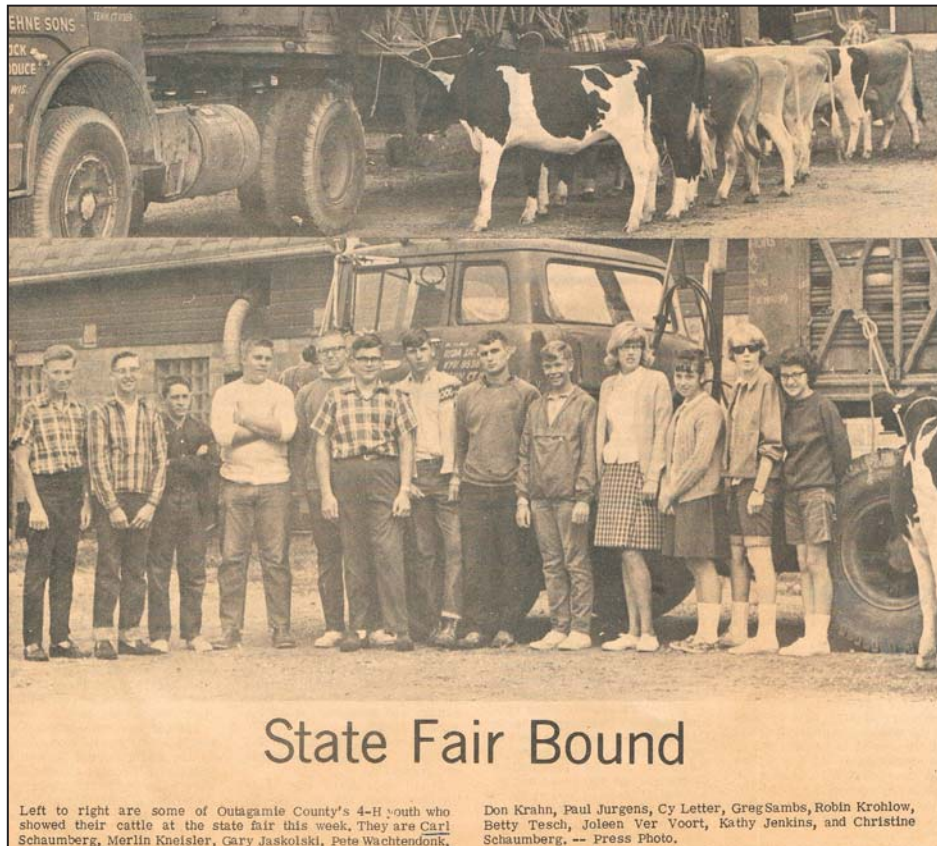
**4-H NATIONAL WEEK**  
**SEPTEMBER 5-11, 2014** ★



4-H exhibitors show their sheep during the 1984 Outagamie County Fair.  
 - Photo courtesy of The History Museum At the Castle, Appleton



Autumn Lorenz and Autumn Lorenz, members of the 4-H club, are pictured with the club's display at the Outagamie County Fair.  
 Submitted photo



Left to right are some of Outagamie County's 4-H youth who showed their cattle at the state fair this week. They are Carl Schaumberg, Merlin Knolesier, Gary Jaskolski, Pete Wachtendonk, Don Krahn, Paul Jurgens, Cy Letter, Greg Sams, Robin Krohlow, Betty Tesch, Joleen Ver Voort, Kathy Jenkins, and Christine Schaumberg. -- Press Photo.

This group of area 4-H members head to the Wisconsin State Fair with the stock they had entered.  
 - Photo courtesy of Carl Schaumberg

### 4-H Today

Today, 4-H serves youth in rural, urban, and suburban communities in every state across the nation. 4-H'ers are tackling the nation's top issues, from global food security, climate change and sustainable energy to childhood obesity and food safety. 4-H out-of-school programming, in-school enrichment programs, clubs and camps also offer a wide variety of opportunities - from agricultural and animal sciences to rocketry, robotics, environmental protection and computer science - to improve the nation's ability to compete in key scientific fields and take on the leading challenges of the 21st century.

Visit the website for more information: [www.4-h.org](http://www.4-h.org)

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# Join the CLUB.

4-H Club	Meeting Date	Time	Location
Bent Arrow	1st Monday	6:00 p.m.	FVTC Room A161A
B-Square	1st Monday	6:45 p.m.	Greenville Town Hall
Buchanan Badgers	2nd Monday	7:00 p.m.	St. Al's, Kaukauna
Busy Badgers	2nd Tuesday	6:30 p.m.	VFW Hall, New London
Busy Bears	1st Monday	7:00 p.m.	Jarvais' Home
Country Slickers	1st Thursday	6:30 p.m.	Greenville Town Hall
Crystal Star	2nd Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Osborn Town Hall
Dream Catchers	2nd Monday	6:30 p.m.	Appleton Public Library
Fairview	1st Monday	6:30 p.m.	Black Creek Town Hall
Fast Trackers	1st Monday	6:30 p.m.	Ellington Com. Center
Liberty Local-Motions	2nd Monday	6:00 p.m.	Liberty Town Hall
Lucky Horseshoes	1st Tuesday	6:00 p.m.	Shiocton High School
New Horizons	2nd Tuesday	7:30 p.m.	Black Creek Comm. Center
North Star	2nd Sunday	1:00 p.m.	Nichols Community Center
Oneida Falling Leaves	1st Thursday	6:00 p.m.	1729 Ranch Rd, Oneida
On the Go	2nd Tuesday	6:30 p.m.	Freedom VFW
Shooting Stars	2nd Monday	6:30 p.m.	Seymour Middle School
Smile Awhile	1st Tuesday	6:30 p.m.	Freedom VFW
Valley Eagles	2nd Monday	6:00 p.m.	Little Chute Village Hall
Wide Awake Forward	1st Monday	6:30 p.m.	Center Town Hall
Wild Grove	3rd Monday	7:30 p.m.	Seymour Middle School
Wolf River Beavers	2nd Monday	6:30 p.m.	Main Town Hall
Woodlawn	1st Thursday	6:30 p.m.	FVTC

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## The future holds innovation based on the solid founding principles of 4-H

The 4-H program has come a long way in the past century, and the organization continues to change.

It still remains a key part of rural life with kids raising livestock, learning about agriculture and at the same time, embracing music, sports, drama, art and technology.

Casey Plamann, the 4-H youth development director, was asked what 4-H might look like when it celebrates 200 years.

"First and foremost, the one thing we always try to do is continue to reach back to the historical principles which got 4-H started," Plamann said. "You look at the pledge with Head, Heart, Hands and Health as the core principles. We're progressive in nature, but we try to never forget our history and what the roots always are and that's preparing our young people to be productive members of society as they move forward in life."

In the area of agriculture, Plamann said 4-H is embracing the technology which dominates nearly all facets of modern life.

"You look at the emergent technology in growing crops and the animal husbandry side of it," Plamann said. "Herd management, genetics, you name it. It all goes into play and the kids are a lot more savvy on that stuff."

"From a non-ag perspective, which is our

fastest growing area, Those kids have interests that are just as diverse as the programs we have so we try to meet that.

"Right now our big thing out there is our science, technology, engineering and math or STEM initiative. We offer robotic programming. You are seeing the technology trend is emerging throughout and I think as we go forward, that's what we're going to see."

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Members of Seymour 4-H pictured at the Seymour IGA store. - Photo courtesy of Seymour Community Museum

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## North Star 4-H celebrates 62 years

By Greg Ylvisaker  
Reporter

As 4-H celebrates its centennial as an organization, North Star 4-H in Nichols is celebrating 62 years.

Much has changed since North Star formed. What started out in the countryside of America has now gone mainstream.

Long ago it was all about the animals and agriculture. Now, it truly has something for everyone with opportunities for kids to learn about computers and robotics. It's truly an organization for everyone.

Lu Ann Peters is the leader of North Star 4-H. She got involved because her children wanted to get involved with animals. Her oldest son was allowed to join the local club and he got into cattle initially.

More than 30 years later, Peters is still involved with the organization. It is quite common for people who join 4-H as children to stay involved for life.

Peters said she enjoyed watching the kids do well, but also seeing them learn from not winning.

"It's a learning experience," said Peters. "The kids need to understand that working with the animals isn't always easy but working hard will get them where they want to be. It's fun to see the kids do well but I don't really like to see them win right away because then it seems too easy. They need to understand that they're not going to get the Blue Ribbon every year."

Peters said that 4-H offers many benefits as children grow and move on into adult life. 4-H is recognized all over the nation and is an excellent resume bullet. Individuals can only compete in 4-H until they turn 18, but once they reach 18, 4-H will allow them the opportunity to begin taking on leadership and mentoring roles which will help them as they move into whatever role life has in store.

She also touched on the fact that 4-H, though widely thought of as a farming organization has evolved into something more.

"4-H has expanded so much over the years, it's not just for the country kids," she said. "There are so many other projects from aerospace and robotics to cooking and canning that are great for kids who

don't have those experiences. There's such a wide variety of opportunities for all ages and backgrounds."

North Star just celebrated its 62nd year of existence with a picnic with the help of Laurene Ferge and Lucille Letter, both alums, and Peters' daughter, Linda Reif. After a microfilm search, invitations were sent to as many past members as could be found.

"The picnic was great as members came from all different years," Peters said. "We had a great time visiting and we enjoyed a pie auction with auctioneer Jerry Fuss, also an alumnus."

Peters added that it was good to see how the current active members have kept the club moving into present times and setting it up to move into the future.

"People were very happy to see that we've kept the club going in the local area," said Peters.

The club meets on the second Sunday of the month at the Nichols Community Center. The club holds a bake sale at Nichols Days and has a float in the Christmas parade.

For more information, call Lu Ann Peters at 525-5000.



## Stacy Marcks loves 4-H and all it does for her

My name is Stacy Marcks, and I am with Fast Trackers 4-H Club. I have been in 4-H for three years and I am in fourth grade. I love to do projects and earn ribbons for doing a good job. I enjoy our meetings every month and like the fun "getting to know each other."

I participated in the Music Festival last year and enjoyed working with everyone. I look forward to the years ahead and being able to do more with my group to help others learn about 4-H and how much fun it is and do more stuff with Fast Trackers to help our community. I can't wait to bring more projects to the fair this year.



## Happy Birthday 4-H

100 Years of Growing Wisconsin Leaders

Wisconsin 4-H Youth Development will spend 2014 celebrating 100 years of positive youth development programming. Since 1914, Wisconsin 4-H has helped youth grow the leadership, critical thinking and communications skills necessary to be successful in a constantly changing world.

Wisconsin 4-H Youth Development is part of the UW-Extension, and 4-H programs are delivered in partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture and federal, state and local governments.

Just seven youth attended the first 4-H club meeting in Walworth County on Oct. 30, 1914. Today, more than 35,000 youth are enrolled as community club members, and nearly 50,000 young people are involved in 4-H through in-school and after-school clubs, day camps, mentoring programs and other opportunities.

All Wisconsin 4-H programs are supported by the hard work of more than 20,000 youth and adult volunteers. Wisconsin 4-H programs continue to emphasize lifelong learning, and programs are available for all interests including science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), agriculture and animal science, arts and communications, leadership, healthy living, international exchange and more.

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# B-Square 4-H has a busy year

Greetings from B-Square 4-H club, we are one of the larger 4-H clubs in Outagamie County. Most of our membership resides in the Town of Greenville and surrounding communities. As back to school supplies are rapidly falling off shelves, fall sports are getting under way and the looming school year is ready to get back in session, 4-H is also once again enrolling members across the state.

This month completes another year for B-Square 4-H club, and what an exciting year it has been. Club members, leaders and parents are very active throughout the year. In September, election of officers are held as well as new and re-enrollment of members.

October brings us Fright Night with the Greenville Civic Club. Our club members participate as "actors" in the haunted hallways of the Greenville park pavilion. Come December,



B-Square 4-H Club members decorated pumpkins.

-Submitted photo

you will find many of our members ringing bells in Greenville supporting the Salvation Army, making gifts for Brewster Village and running a food drive at our Christmas Potluck for Fox Valley Humane Society.

In the winter months, you will find many of our members practicing their acting skills to perform in the Drama Festival held every March.

And if they are not acting, they are dribbling basketballs practicing for the annual county 4-H basketball tournament the last weekend in March.

A major highlight this year, in accordance with the anniversary of 4-H in Wisconsin, several of our club members and leaders as well as over 800 other 4-H'ers traveled to Madison to tour

the capital and meet with state representatives. Miss Bailey Korth was excited to meet Duey Stroebel and tour Dave Murphy's office.

Of course, the highlight of the year is showcasing all the hard work and dedication to the projects each member carries throughout the year at the Outagamie County Fair. There were lots of Grand Champi-

ons, Award of Merits and blue ribbons awarded to B-Square members. Sarah and Anna Shepro, Abby Richards, Taia Littmann, Sara Boughton, Olivia, Emalie and Alicia Thern and Chloe Skrober all had projects selected to be shown at the Wisconsin State Fair.

Projects are not the only fun thing in 4-H. Through the UWEX and 4-H many trips are offered for 4-H'ers. This year Sarah Shepro and Seth Harrmann had the opportunity to "Experience the History of the American Spirit."

They toured the east coast for 10 days with a selection of delegates from the east side of Wisconsin. Bruce Teale attended Space Camp in Alabama in April and found what it is like to be in zero gravity and be a commander of a shuttle for a day. Sara Harrmann, Kaitlyn Schlueter and Autumn Mulroy attended the WI 4-H Youth conference in Madison with other 4-H'ers

around the state. Abby Richards attended a leadership conference and brought back valuable skills for the club. Several members of the club attended Camp Upham Woods in the Dells area for five days. And let's not forget all the local parades, events and even Breakfast on the Farm that had 4-H well represented.

Who can join 4-H? Anyone age 5 year Kindergarten through grade 13. Members younger than third grade are called Cloverbuds. They can participate at the fair and try their hands at all the projects. This year, we were sad to graduate out five great members, Justin Earll, Rachel Fair, Mackenzie Jentz, Emalie Thern and Amy Vander Zanden. Most of these members have been in 4-H since kindergarten and will now continue as adult leaders.

If you are interested in joining 4-H please call the UWEX at (920)832-5123.

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**Congratulations on the 100<sup>TH</sup> Anniversary of 4-H!**