



Pepin Pacer

Pepin County 4-H Newsletter



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
PEPIN COUNTY

February, 2026

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Extension Pepin County Staff

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Extension Pepin County website:
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4-H Online:
<http://wi.4honline.com/>

Let's take a look back at some highlights of 4-H's history ...

The 1960s and 1970s 4-H made changes to be more inclusive as an organization. The influence of the Civil Rights Movement led the organization to implement measures to integrate clubs based on race and gender. Changes were also made to programs so that 4-H could reach kids from urban communities as well as those in rural settings.

These kinds of changes were a part of other organizational changes the group made in the latter half of the 20th century. In a more interconnected world, 4-H altered its aim to the personal development of youth by building life skills to make them productive members of society and catalysts for change. While remaining devoted to agriculture and ag youth, 4-H has expanded into other areas of interest such as technology, arts, health & fitness, and more to reach more youth.

Today millions of youths worldwide are involved in 4-H. 4-H offers four main program areas to kids today: STEM, Agriculture, Healthy Living, and Civic Engagement. Though more broad in its offerings, 4-H remains committed to teaching through "hands-on" experiences whether that be showing animals at a fair, cooking meals, growing a garden, building robots, and so much more!

Every month we will hide a special symbol somewhere in that month's Pacer. If you are the first person to call (715) 672-5214 or email (gwen.prom@wisc.edu) the Extension Pepin County and tell us where that symbol is found you will win \$5 and be named in next month's Pepin Pacer as the "4-H Fast Finder".

Good Luck Hunting!

This is this month's symbol :



DISCOVER 4-H CLUBS



Pepin/Buffalo 4-H Shooting Sports Club

Typically meets Monday & Tuesday nights
@ 6:30 p.m. in Pepin Sportsman's Club,
January-March. For 3rd Graders and older.

Contact Nicole Schonke @
612-644-7525

Chippewa 4-H Club

Typically meets 2nd Sunday of month.
Contact Nicki Moline @
715-442-5371

Lima Lads & Lassies 4-H Club

Typically meets 3rd Sunday of month.
11:00 a.m., Durand City Hall
Contact Wendy Brantner @
715-495-4472

Community Health Youth Leaders (CHYL)

Durand /Arkansaw In-School Club

6th - 8th Graders

Typically meets (2) Fridays a month
in Room #009 during lunch
Contact Sky Holt @
715-279-7677



Pepin County 4-H Parent/ Leader Federation Meeting

February 25, 2026 @ 5:30 pm

Boardroom, Pepin Co. Government Center

Volunteer in Pepin County 4-H and help make our 4-H program stronger.

Typically, meetings are held in February, April, June, August, October and December, normally held in the Boardroom at the Government Center in Durand.

Call the Extension Office for more information.



4-H Fast Finder for the Month:

ARCHER STERRY

Congratulations for being our
4-H Fast Finder this month!
We hope you enjoy the
Pepin Pacer !

One of our Lima Lads & Lassies 4-H moms, Celsey Weiss, contacted Kim Bauer, the owner of Batter & Bowls, to see if she would be willing to allow our club to come see her bakery and show us how she bakes her delicious cookies.

The littlest kids got a seat on the stools so they could see all the action. Kim did an excellent job of explaining safety rules of the kitchen. Next Kim got out a recipe for chocolate chip cookies. She walked the kids through the steps of following a recipe such as gathering your ingredients and measuring tools and how to correctly measure the ingredients. The older kids got to work mixing up the cookie dough. The kids divided into 3 groups and they were given a portion of the dough. They were given the choice to mix in chocolate chips, white chocolate chips or M&Ms or all of the above. The older kids scooped the dough onto the cookie sheets.

While the cookies were baking Kim gave each of the kids their own cupcake. She showed the kids how to use a frosting bag and the different types of tips and the patterns they made. The kids then got to select what colors of frosting they wanted and tried their hand at decorating their cupcake. The cookies were done and cooled by the time the cupcakes were frosted and eaten. Kim bagged up 3 cookies for each of the kids to take home.

It was a great learning experience for the kids and parents! Thank you Kim for opening up your bakery to our 4-H club and offering to help the kids with any baking exhibits that might enter into the fair this summer.





The Chippewa 4-H Club meet on Sunday, January 25th at the school in Pepin. During our meeting, Mya Moline and Lily Derrick shared their experience at Art Camp in October. Our activity for this month was making **Valentine's Day cards for Wisconsin Veterans**. The kids had a great time being creative!



The Lima Lads and Lassies 4-H club held their monthly meeting on January 18th. With the frigid temperatures forecasted for this week it's hard to think about the fair in August but the theme for the fair was released this week. It will be "Where Town and Country Come Together". It's never too early to start planning our display booth at the fair with the new theme.

Speaking of the fair, the Buffalo/Pepin County Fair Board is putting on a Building a Better Fair Gala on February 28th from 5:00-11:00 at Walker's Silvermoon in Alma. It's a ticketed event to raise funds to make much needed improvements to the fairgrounds in Mondovi. It is a 21+ year old event. There will be a meal, drinks and raffles of all kinds. If you would like to donate to the event please go to their website for more information on tickets and how to donate. their website is www.buffalopepincountyfair.com Our club will be donating \$100 to the event.

There are several 4-H sponsored events happening through out the month that are available for any kids in the general public. One of them is Lego Club which meets at the Durand Library. Oakley has been participating in this event on a regular basis and says it's a lot of fun and challenging. Another event is air rifle shooting which is held in Pepin. Nick and Cayden went to the first session and did very well with the shooting. Nick told us how they were taught to shoot and Cayden brought his target sheets to show us how well he did. He earned 2 medals already for hitting the targets. If you have kids that would like to join one of these events contact the Pepin County Extension office for more information on meeting dates and times.

Marcia Kannel, a friend of Wendy's, has offered to come to one of our meetings to do a barn quilt painting class. Our members are interested in doing that so we will set that up for our April meeting.

Gwen had forwarded to Wendy some information about the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs looking for individuals willing to make Valentines cards to be handed out to veterans in the Chippewa Falls area. So that was our project for this meeting. We made 22 cards so those will be sent off in the mail so the cards can be delivered in time for Valentines. We thank all those veterans for their service to our country!!



Pepin County 4-H Award Trip Applications can be found on our website under 4-H FORMS



FFA & 4-H Day



If you are currently a member of either organization, receive free admission on February 15, 2026!



Are you or your child/grandchild a part of your local FFA or 4-H? We'd love to treat you to some complimentary admission to the National Eagle Center on February 15th to recognize all of your hard work! Come visit our LIVE Eagle ambassadors and view our world class exhibits! We cannot wait to see you all in Wabasha on February 15th!

GRATITUDE DRAWING PROMPT:

**Draw something you
couldn't live without.**

We'd love to include your drawing in the next Pepin Pacer! Just email a photo of it to gwen.prom@wisc.edu.





DISCOVER PEPIN/BUFFALO SHOOTING SPORTS CLUB!

We are very excited to continue the Pepin/Buffalo Shooting Sports Club! Thank you, Nicole and Jim Schonke for your continued leadership in the shooting sport project!



What's the same:

Same great practices at the Pepin Sportsman's Club - N 10076 Sand Ridge Rd, Pepin WI
 3rd grade and 8 yrs and older
 No experience necessary
 Equipment provided
 Fee: \$10.-



What's different:

Shooting sports is now an official club.
 You can enroll in the Shooting Sports Club as your main club in 4honline 2.0 or inform our office and we can put it as your secondary club.



Club and Practice Schedule:

Monday & Tuesday nights,
 Excluding 3rd Tuesday of each month
 January 12- March 31
 Prac: 6:00-7:30 pm
 Meeting: 7:30-8:00 pm

QUESTIONS

Pepin County 4-H

(715) 672-5214

sky.holtewisc.edu



SIGN
Today
 UP



LEGO CLUB FEBRUARY DATES:

FEBRUARY 6, 13, 27

4:15 - 5:15 PM
IN THE DURAND LIBRARY

ALL YOUTH GRADES K-5
WELCOME!



February Photo Challenge

This month's categories:

- Keeping Warm
- Winter Treats
- Winter Hobby or Fun
- Outdoor Life

Send up to 4 photos with a brief description of the photo and how it fits in the category to gwen.prom@wisc.edu by March 10.

Application to the WROF, Inc. Premier Scholarship Award Program is open to rural Wisconsin high school seniors. The WROF, Inc. will present \$3,000 scholarship awards to five outstanding high school students. The awards will help cover the tuition and educational expenses of post-secondary education. Scholarship requirements include the following: High school seniors must have lived in rural Wisconsin for at least two years, currently attend school in Wisconsin, and plan to return to their rural roots upon graduation. The WROF, Inc. will accept applications online until 11:59 pm on Friday, March 7, 2025. Please visit www.wrof.org for more information.



The Pesobic Pathfinders 4-H Club from Lincoln County are the 2026 Cedar Crest Ice Cream Flavor Creation Contest winners with their flavor Hold Your Horses!

**4-H SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION
SPONSORED BY
PEPIN COUNTY 4-H PARENT LEADER FEDERATION**



To qualify for a scholarship, you must be a 12th or 13th grade student who is a *current Pepin County 4-H member that resides in or near Pepin County*. 1 or more \$500.00 scholarships may be awarded at the discretion of the Pepin County 4-H Parent Leader Federation Board. You must be planning to attend a technical college, university, or other applicable short course in any area of study. A maximum of one scholarship per individual can be received (one scholarship either during 12th grade or 13th grade, not both).

Return by April 1 to:

Extension Pepin County 4-H
Government Center, Room 110
P.O. Box 39, Durand, WI 54736

NAME _____ TELEPHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

PARENT OR GUARDIAN NAMES: _____

HIGH SCHOOL ATTENDING: _____

NAME AND LOCATION OF POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION YOU WILL ATTEND:

MAJOR FIELD OF STUDY: _____

(Attach additional sheets as needed.)

1. 4-H INVOLVEMENT (Leadership, positions held, activities, honors, or awards, etc.)
2. BRIEFLY MENTION OTHER YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS (Forensics, FFA, Athletics, FCCLA, Teen Court, Boy/Girl Scouts, Volunteer Work, Church, etc.)
3. ESSAY: In 200 words or less describe how 4-H has impacted or influenced your life and career goals.
4. AT LEAST ONE CHARACTER REFERENCE ABOUT THE APPLICANT. (Cannot be relatives)



Positive Youth Development Institute

DIVISION OF EXTENSION
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

2026 Wisconsin 4-H Scholarship Applications Open!

Each year, Wisconsin 4-H recognizes outstanding students in our communities with scholarships that celebrate dedication, leadership, and achievements in 4-H. We're excited to announce that this year we will be awarding more than \$20,000 in scholarships to outstanding Wisconsin 4-H members and alumni.

Applications for eligible high school seniors and 4-H alumni opened on Jan. 1, 2026. To apply, applicants 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
- Be enrolled or planning to enroll at a university, college, or technical school during the 2026-2027 academic school year
- Have not received a Wisconsin 4-H Collegiate Scholarship

For the application form, specific scholarship information, and complete instructions on how to apply, visit <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/wisconsin-4-h-scholarships/>.

Any members of your family who meet this criteria are encouraged to apply!

Applications must be received electronically by no later than **11:59 p.m. Central Time on March 1, 2026**. Applicants who are awarded scholarships will be notified via email by mid May.

SAVE THE DATE!

Clover Connect

***Idea sharing ZOOMs
for 4-H Volunteers
and Older Youth***

**Hands to Larger Service:
Community Service Ideas**

Sunday, Feb 22 @ 7 p.m.
Monday, Feb 23 @ 12 Noon

**Making 4-H Meetings Fun: Bringing
Laughter & Learning to 4-H Meetings**

Sunday, Mar 22 @ 7 p.m.
Monday, Mar 23 @ 12 Noon

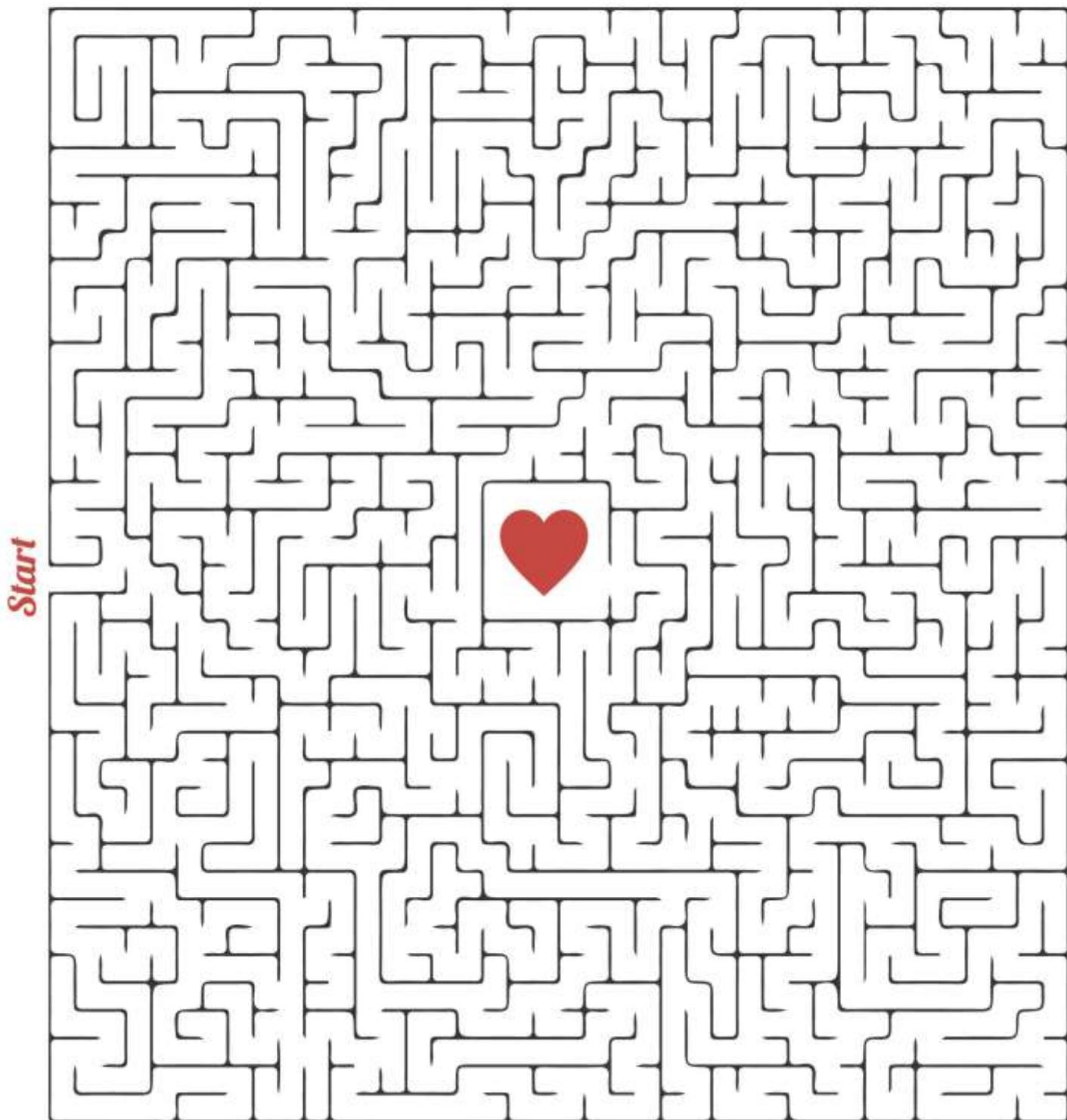


For More Info:



Valentine's Day Maze

Work your way through the maze to reach the heart in the center.



2026 Wisconsin Towns Association Scholarship Program

Application Deadline: May 22, 2026



Wisconsin Towns Association, in partnership with Scott Construction, Inc., and Rural Mutual Insurance Company, is excited to announce the 2026 WTA Scholarship Contest. We invite Wisconsin's graduating high school seniors to participate by innovatively writing an essay answering this year's question for a chance to win one of ten \$1,000 scholarships.

2026 Essay Question:

"What strategies can be implemented by local government officials in collaboration with citizens to encourage and maintain civility?"

GUIDELINES & REQUIREMENTS

<https://www.wisctowns.com/resources/scholarship/>

Candidates Must:

- Be a resident of Wisconsin, graduating from a Wisconsin public or private high school in 2026, and plan to attend a Wisconsin public or private college or university.
- Proof of enrollment in a Wisconsin public or private college or university will be required to receive a scholarship.

Important Information:

- Essays will be independently judged on originality and overall writing quality, relevant only to the 2026 question noted above. Essays must demonstrate correct spelling, grammar, and punctuation.
- Judging will be completed by August 10, 2026.
- Winners will be announced by August 24, 2026, and only the Scholarship Award recipients will be contacted.
- Scholarships will be awarded to the top 10 applicants with the highest-ranking essay scores as follows:
 - Eight (8) \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded to eight applicants with the highest-ranking essay scores.
 - Two (2) \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded to two students with the highest-ranking essay scores currently residing in a town or village insured by Rural Mutual Insurance Company (insured as of May 1, 2026).
 - Please note: Students do not need to know if their town is insured.

Essay Requirements:

- Essay must be written by the student submitting. **NOT AI GENERATED**
- Essay must only address the WTA 2026 Scholarship Contest question, noted above.
- Essay must be typed, double-spaced, and between 500 and 1,000 words.
- Bibliographic listing of all sources used must be included.
- Submit your essay as a (.doc or .docx) WORD document file.



Become a Sparks Champion



Make a difference!

Why become a Sparks Champion?

- Help youth discover their “sparks” - their interests that give them meaning and joy.
- Build confidence, resilience, and life skills in young people.
- Be part of a supportive 4-H community that changes lives.



What does a Sparks Champion do?

You don't have to be an expert. It's enough to care and encourage youth as they grow and thrive in something they feel passionate about. You can:



Notice & Affirm:
Spot what excites youth and ask questions.



Listen & Encourage:
Validate interests and celebrate effort. Be present.



Provide Opportunities:
Connect youth with projects and events when available.



Model & Mentor:
Share your own passions and guide through challenges.



Support Growth:
Help set goals and reflect on progress.



What's involved in being a Sparks Champion?

- Attend a Sparks Champion Orientation (1.5 hr session in Jan)
- Host a 4-H educator to teach a Sparks Lesson at your club (Feb - May)
- Complete an evaluation (Aug)



Sign Up Today

<https://go.wisc.edu/99pje3>

Benefits for You –

- Make a lasting impact on youth.
- Share your skills and passions.
- Join a network of caring adults committed to youth development.





YOUNG ADULT LEADER POSITION

For Summer Academy 2026



Applicants Must be:

- Between the ages of 19 and 25
- Able to work cooperatively with others
- A role model and support system for youth attendees

**APPLICATION
DEADLINE: MAR. 1ST**

Young Adult Leaders also must be able to attend trainings and an on-site orientation

Applications are open for Summer Academy 2026 Young Adult Leaders! Summer Academy will take place June 14–18 on the UW–Madison campus, and young adult leaders play a key role in mentoring youth and supporting the overall program experience. Adult advisor positions are also available for those aged 25 or older and interested in serving as mentors and guides during the event.

More : <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/.../statewi.../summer-academy/>



ART CONTEST: 4-H Wildlife & Forestry Registration

(4-H Wildlife WHEP & Forestry Contests are on a separate registration form. Please request copies.)

Friday, March 27, 2026 and Saturday, March 28, 2026

Washington County Fair Park, 3000 Hwy. PV, West Bend, WI (Hwy 45 S. of West Bend)



This 4-H activity is open to all Wisconsin 4-H Club members. You may be enrolled in any 4-H project and participate in Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H & Wisconsin 4-H Forestry activities. See additional guidelines and wildlife/forestry art contest rules on page 2.

"Brief Description" – All items must have a 3" X 5" card attached explaining your wildlife item and its wildlife/forestry connection on one side and your name, club, and county on the other side. See examples in guidelines on page two. Items must be made in the current 4-H project year and after September 1st of the previous year. No face to face judging. Judges will give TEN awards in each age group and in each class.

Grade as of Jan. 1st: K-5-2nd grade; 3rd-4th grade; 5th-6th grade; 7th-8th-9th grade; 11-13 grade

Check the box with your choice of entries – 6 ENTRIES TOTAL (One entry per class.)

- 1-Nesting Structure or Feeder for Bird, Bee, Butterfly, or Bat House, etc.** – The structure meets specific requirements for the named critter. Include - overall size, shape, and hole diameter or opening, etc. (Ornamental bird houses, etc. must be entered in crafts.) Include your story telling description.
- 2-Craft** – Craft item has wildlife or forestry connection. Examples: leather craft, stitchery, clothing, sculpture, wildlife folk art, plaster tracks, quiver, etc. Craft items must be made by exhibitor during the current 4-H year. (Do not use "put together craft kits" or similar items.)
- 3-Drawing** – Drawing can be any size, (does not need to be mounted) that has a wildlife, forestry, or wildlife habitat connection. Drawing can be pencil, ink, charcoal, chalk, pastel, colored pencil or similar on any surface. Drawing will be judged on "story telling ability", neatness, and your description.
- 4-Invasive Plant or Weed** – Poster, display, or dried example of an invasive plant or weed (immature and mature if possible). Include item name, your description, and control measures. Also, include date & location where found for each item for actual collections. This entry may include items from the entire preceding calendar year. Examples: purple loosestrife, ragweed, etc. Include your story telling description.
- 5-Orienteering & Geocaching** – Poster or display on Compass, GPS, or Topographic Map Use. Items will be judged on their relationship to wildlife or forestry applications. Poster or display related to geocaching. Include your story telling description.
- 6-Painting** – Your painting can be any size and does not need to be mounted that has a wildlife or forestry connection. Painting can be acrylic, watercolor, oil, or similar on any surface. Painting will be judged on "story telling ability", neatness and your description.
- 7-Photo Black & White** – Your black & white photo or silhouette photo (one photo only) can be any size and does not need to be mounted that has a wildlife or forestry connection. Photo will be judged on "story telling ability", neatness, and your description. No people allowed.
- 8-Photo Color** – Your color photo (one only), any size, and does not need to be mounted that has a wildlife or forestry connection. Photo will be judged on "story telling ability", neatness, and your brief description. No people allowed.
- 9-Recycle** – Any item related to wildlife, forestry, or for wildlife use. Example – Items that birds use to make nests: bird feeders, etc.. Item will be judged on "story telling ability", practical usefulness, neatness, and your brief description.
- 10-Taxidermy** – Item or display made 4-H member during the current 4-H year. Include date, location, and county where critter was obtained. Also, include a description of the critter and of your taxidermy work.
- 11-Trail Camera Photo – Large / Small Mammal** – Photo from a trail camera can be any size and does not need to be mounted. Include animal name, date, location (county), and brief description of the picture. Also include the relationship of the camera's owner. Picture must have been taken with your immediate family/grandparents trail camera after September 1st of the previous year. Photos will be judged on "story telling ability", neatness, and your description.
- 12-Trail Camera Photo – Upland Bird, Backyard Bird, Waterfowl, or Raptor** – Photo from a trail camera can be any size and does not need to be mounted. Include animal name, date, location (county), and brief description of the picture. Also include the relationship of the camera's owner. Picture must have been taken with your immediate family or grandparents trail camera after September 1st of the previous year. Photos will be judged on "story telling ability", neatness, and your description.
- 13-Tree or Shrub** – Item, poster or display of a tree or shrub, parts, measurements, related insects or diseases, etc. Include the tree/shrub name and description. Also, can be with an animal, insect, bird, or critter that makes their home in, on, or near a particular tree or shrub species. This entry may include items from the entire preceding calendar year.
- 14-WHEP Wildlife or Forestry Concept** – Item, diorama, poster, or display of a WHEP or forestry Concept (or part of a concept) from the current national manuals. Include the concept name and a description. Examples: habitat requirements, stages, food chain, etc. E-mail us with your questions.
- 15-WHEP Wildlife Foods** – Item, diorama, poster, or display of a WHEP foods (or part of a food group) from the current national WHEP manual. Include the food group name and a description. Examples: aquatic plants, grains, soft mast, hard mast, etc. E-mail us with your questions.
- 16-WHEP or Forestry Management Practice** – Item, diorama, poster, or display of a WHEP Management Practice (or part of a management practice) from the current national WHEP Manual. Include management practice name and your description Examples: planting trees, fish or wildlife survey, creating snags, wildlife damage management, recreational uses, products, tools used, etc. E-mail us with your questions.
- 17-Wildflower** – Dried or pressed wildflowers, poster or display of wildflowers or parts of a wildflower. Include name, date, location (county) where found and your description. This entry may include items from the entire preceding calendar year.
- 18-Wildlife or Forestry Game** – Individual or group game or learning activity related to wildlife or forestry. Include name of game, supplies, rules, and ages for participation. Also, briefly describe what will be learned by the participants. Include a picture of the game being used if possible. Your item can be a 4-H youth leader activity from the entire preceding year.
- 19-Wildlife Art Celebration - 25th Anniversary** – Details coming soon.

4-H WILDLIFE & FORESTRY ART CONTEST ENTRY FEES: (Reminder: 1 entry per class.)

Youth entered in 4-H Wildlife/Forestry Art Contest only (Includes a Tri County T-shirt) \$10.00 First item; \$3.00 second item; \$3.00 third item; \$3.00 fourth item; \$3.00 fifth item; \$3.00 sixth item**Youth entered in the Tri County Tournament and in the 4-H Wildlife/Forestry Art Contest:** \$3.00 First item; \$3.00 second item; \$3.00 third item; \$3.00 fourth item; \$3.00 fifth item; \$3.00 6th item

Can't Attend the Wildlife & Forestry Art Contest. Please make arrangements with a friend to bring your items and take them along home after the event. If that is not possible, please mail/ship your entry in an "acceptable, returnable, and reusable packaging". Your items will be return shipped after the contest. **We are not responsible for lost or damaged shipments.** Please include the proper applicable shipping cost for the return shipment (nearest dollar value) with your registration fee. See your local Post Office or UPS Store for applicable shipping rates. **Your General Club Leader or Extension Youth Development Educator or Project Leader must acknowledge that your entry is your work and that it was made during the current 4-H project year.** Contact us with questions.

Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H Art Contest Rules

- Only North American wildlife (including migratory critters), plants, etc., **especially those in found in Wisconsin will be ranked higher.**
- Items must be made in the current 4-H project year and after September 1st of the previous year. (See listed exceptions.)
- All 4-H wildlife artwork must be done by the participant and not previously exhibited at a Wildlife WHEP -Forestry 4-H Art Contest.
- Mountings or frames on photos, drawings, and paintings are not required. Items will be judged on their "story telling ability", neatness, and your brief description.
- Diorama, displays, pictures, and posters can be any reasonable size as long as it is easy to handle and display

- Brief Description- Required** – All items must have a 3" X 5" card attached with your name, club, & county on one side and description. See examples below.

- Your Wildlife or Forestry Description is Required and counts 30% toward an award** - 75 words maximum.

Your description includes the correct critter name or names. You can include habitat information (diet, water & cover), and other interesting comments that tells the story about your item.

Brief example for "Photo, Drawing, or Painting": (Your picture of deer) so your description is as follows:

"White-tailed Deer - This is a large mammal. Habitat: forest & prairie areas. Foods sources: grass, acorns, browse"

Brief example for "Wildlife WHEP Concept" poster: (Your concept is a food web) so your description is as follows:

"Food Web - A food web is a network of interconnected food chains. A food chain starts with primary producer (example), and next is primary consumer (example). Next is secondary consumer (example) and tertiary consumer (example) follows next".

- Youth are limited to **one entry in a class for your age and six entries total**.
- Make sure your project will withstand being handled. Projects will be on display for others to view and to examine.
- No face to face judging. Judges will give TEN awards (and honorable mention as determined) in each age group and each class.**
- Any entry not meeting all contest rules will not be eligible for an award.
- Items are entered on Friday evening or Saturday morning. **Items must be registered and on display by 10:00 A.M. Saturday. Late items will not be judged. Items are on display until 1:00 P.M. Please make arrangements for pick-up of your entries if you leave early.**
- +++ An incomplete registration form will not be accepted. +++

I acknowledge that this youth is currently enrolled in 4-H and is entered in the correct classes and projects are from the current year.

General Club Leader, Shooting Sports Leader, 4-H Project Leader, or Extension Educator

- Signature _____ PH# _____ Project Leader for _____

Tri-County Wildlife Contest: Friday night & Saturday to 1:00PM. **Separate age classes: (K-5, Ages 6-7 for fun ONLY) 8-9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17-19.** Different tests will be used in various age divisions. There are 40 each (K-5 & 6-7 = 15) multiple choice questions. No parents can help. Reading assistance provided. **No fee required and you are automatically entered.** See the wildlife team entry form for details. (This contest is not the Wildlife WHEP & Forestry Statewide Competition. See the separate registration form.) No registration required for K-5-ages 6-7. Just come to the contest table. I'm entered on a tournament wildlife team, (K-5 ages 6-7 not eligible.) Team Name: _____

See Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H website for details on wildlife contest topics: <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/projects/outdoor-education>.

See 4-H Shooting Sports website for more details on wildlife contest topics: <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/projects/shooting-sports/>.

Each PARTICIPANT receives only one Tournament T-Shirt. Adult sizes: Small; Medium; Large; XL; XXL

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Postmarked Saturday, March 7, 2026. No late entries accepted.

Name _____ Birth Date _____ Grade _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

4-H Club _____ County _____ E-mail _____

Program support is provided by Northern Kettle Moraine Whitetails Chapter, Washington Co. Whitetails Chapter, Wisconsin Wild Turkey Federation Chapters, Friends of Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H, and Friends of Wisconsin 4-H Forestry. THANK YOU.

Permission Statement: I grant permission for my child to participate in the Wildlife WHEP Wisconsin 4-H Wildlife & Wisconsin 4-H Forestry Art Contest and related activities. I release the hosting facility, their employees, UW Extension employees, volunteers, and donors from any financial responsibility while participating or in attendance. I agree to pay all expenses not covered by insurance. I authorize the use of photographs of me & our family at this event for educational or media purposes. **I have read and understand the contest rules regarding participation.**

Signature: Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____ Participant's Signature: _____

Total fees: _____ Check Number _____ Make checks payable to: **Washington County 4-H Shooting Sports**

Mail to: Barb/Norb Yogerst, 2401 Western Avenue, Jackson, WI 53037 PH: 262-677-2379 **Keep a copy of this form.**

EM: washingtonco4hshootingsports@gmail.com Please return this form with payment. **Keep a copy for your records.**



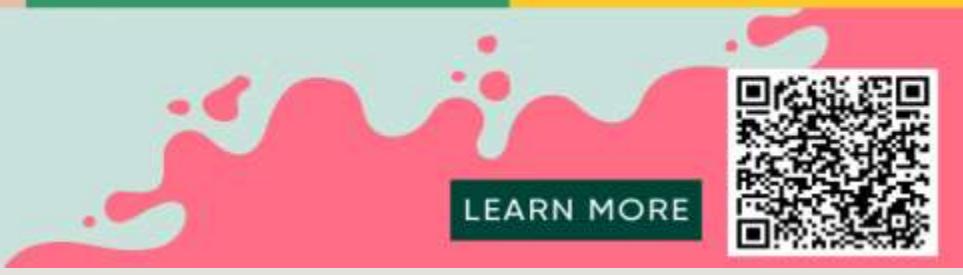
Art Beat

REGISTRATION OPEN JANUARY 12— FEBRUARY 8

4-H members in grades 3–5, along with parents and leaders, can explore visual arts, drama, music, and STEAM through hands-on activities led by adult volunteers. Participants will also enjoy an overnight camp experience, staying in cabins with support from high school counselors.

WHEN	WHERE	COST
March 14–15, 2026	Upham Woods Outdoor Learning Center	\$150 for Youth Members, \$75 for Adult Volunteers

 
UW-MADISON EXTENSION



[LEARN MORE](#) 

STEAM GAZE: A Creative Fusion of Art & Science!



STEAM GAZE
Exploring Art and Science

Wisconsin 4-H proudly presents STEAM GAZE, a dynamic, full-day experience designed for curious and creative youth in grades 3–5. Whether your spark is chemistry, theater, visual arts, environmental science, music, or something in between, STEAM GAZE offers multiple interactive tracks to ignite imagination and innovation. Youth must attend with an adult. Adult attendance is free. \$ 10.00 per youth participant. Registration will open through 4-H Online at the end of February.

Event Details:

- Wausau: April 25, 9:30 AM – 3:00 PM
- Milwaukee: May 16, 9:30 AM – 3:00 PM

Buffalo County Fair in Affiliation with Pepin County
Invite you to

Building a Better Fair Gala

Inaugural Winter Fundraiser to support Capital Improvements for the fair

February 28, 2026
5:00 – 11:00pm

Walker's
SILVERMOON
1582 State Road 35
Alma, WI 54610



Register by December 31 for a chance to win an Early Bird Prize!



Join us for a night of fun!

Raffles, Auctions, 50/50, Food & Drinks
21+ ONLY



Visit our website for additional information and registration details.
www.buffalopepincountyfair.com

upcoming **MEAT ANIMAL EVENTS**

2/21/26

Market Beef Weigh-In @ Independence NFO

2/28/26

Back up Beef Weigh-In date if there are poor road conditions the Saturday before

4/11/26

Hog Tag Pick-up @ Fairgrounds, Mondovi

4/25/26

Market Sheep & Goat Weigh-In @ Fairgrounds, Mondovi

Registration link and specific times to come!

Announcing the first-ever Building a Better Fair Gala on February 28, 2026 at Walker's Silvermoon in Alma!

This special evening is all about coming together as a community to help shape the future of the fairgrounds. From updated buildings to improved spaces for exhibitors, volunteers, and fairgoers—this Gala will kick off a new chapter for our fair, and you can be part of it!

Enjoy a night filled with:

- A delicious meal
- Live auction
- Raffles & prizes
- Great conversations and community fun

Every dollar raised goes directly toward capital improvements to benefit the fair for years to come. This is more than just an event... it's the beginning of something long-lasting and meaningful!

Tickets & details:
www.buffalopepincountyfair.com





The Fair
Theme for
2026 :
**“Where
Town
and
Country
Come
Together”**

The 2026 Fairbook is LIVE
on the Fair website:

<https://www.buffalopepincountyfair.com/exhi.../premium-books>

The Buffalo County Fair in
Affiliation with Pepin County is
proud to announce that our 2026
Scholarship Application is now
OPEN!

We are awarding (2) \$500
scholarships to eligible graduating
seniors who have been active
participants in the Buffalo County
Fair.

Application Deadline: April 1, 2026
More information on our website:
www.buffalopepincountyfair.com





Check out this scholarship opportunity from our friends at YQCA. They are due February 15! An active YQCA certification is required!

<https://yqcaprogram.org/local/2026-scholarship-program.php>

Questions about the scholarship should be directed to YQCA.



Wisconsin Cattlemen's Association Scholarship Requirements

- **Applications must be postmarked no later than February 27, 2026.**
- The Wisconsin Cattlemen's Association scholarship is available to any high school senior enrolled or planning to enroll in any university, technical college, community college in the United States, and the Farm and Industry Short Course Program.
- Must have a background in the beef, veal, or dairy industry.
- Applicants must be a resident of Wisconsin.
- Preference may be given to WCA member's children and grandchildren.
- Preference may be given to those majoring in an agriculture-related field.
- Preference may be given to those students attending a Wisconsin school.
- Preference may be given to those who have worked in the WCA Steak Trailer.
- Recipients will be strongly encouraged to attend the WCA Summer Tour held on a Saturday towards the end of June 2025. This event will be held in Southeast Wisconsin this year and typically tours three Wisconsin beef businesses and has an awards ceremony and dinner.

MORE INFORMATION@ : <https://www.wisconsincattlemen.com/resources/scholarships>

WI STATE 4-H DOG PROJECT AGILITY LEARNING DAY

SPONSORED BY THE WI STATE DOG ASSOCIATION

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED
TO ATTEND

SAT., MARCH 7TH
9AM – 2PM
WAUSAU, WI



Join 4-H dog project members from around the state for the WI State 4-H Dog Agility Learning Day coming up in March. The registration deadline is February 18th or when all spots are full, whatever happens first.

More information at: <https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/wi-state-4-h-dog-learning.../>

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

Northern WI Beef Producers Association

Winter Rendezvous

Saturday, February 7, 2026

Ridgeland Community Center

200 Diamond St, Ridgeland, WI (715) 949-1717

Registration 11:00am – 11:30 am

Beef Brisket Buffet at noon provided by
BIG STACK MEATS AND CATERING

New Beef Industry Information & Updates
followed by the Annual Meeting

Info and to RSVP - Call or Text Kate (715) 642-0804

NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOMED Annual Dues \$30/FAMILY

Dennis Bangart Memorial Calf Grant

Dennis Bangart had pure passion for agriculture and poured his heart into volunteering to serve the next generation. His commitment to agriculture, his community and youth lives on through this grant. The Purple Ribbon Classic is offering a \$1000 calf grant awarded to a junior that lives in the state of Wisconsin. This grant will be used to purchase a Registered Holstein heifer by a 4-H, FFA or Junior Holstein Association member. Winner will be notified before the 2026 Purple Ribbon Classic Sale on March 7, 2026. Dennis felt that "you just need to plant the seed and youth would grow." In his name the Purple Ribbon Classic aim to help youth passion and project grow. This calf grant is available for use at the 2026 Purple Ribbon Classic Sale. The intentions of the grant are to help an individual purchase a calf to be shown at the district show, county fairs and to expand the individual's registered Holstein herd.



For more information and to apply see
<https://forms.gle/Pbvtwsd4RKE2iC6y6>

SAVE THE DATES

STATE 4-H DOG EVENTS

DOG 4-H QUIZ BOWL

APRIL 25, 2026

STEM INNOVATION BUILDING, UW - GREEN BAY

STATE 4-H DOG OBEDIENCE, SHOWMANSHIP, AND RALLY; SPEAKING, PHOTO, AND POSTER CONTESTS

SEPTEMBER 26 & 27, 2026

LANGLADE CO. FAIRGROUNDS, ANTIGO

STATE 4-H DOG AGILITY SHOW

OCTOBER 11, 2026

OVERDALE CANINE SPORTS, SPRING VALLEY



More Information:

<https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/.../agricultu.../dogs-project/>

WI STATE 4-H DOG PROJECT AGILITY LEARNING DAY

SPONSORED BY THE WI STATE DOG ASSOCIATION

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED
TO ATTEND

SAT., MARCH 7TH

9AM – 2PM

WAUSAU, WI



Join 4-H dog project members from around the state for the WI State 4-H Dog Agility Learning Day coming up in March. The registration deadline is February 18th or when full. Information about the event is available at:

<https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/u/wi-state-4-h-dog-learning.../>

Wildlife & Woods

EXPLORATIONS VIRTUAL SERIES

FREE SERIES: FOR YOUTH GRADES K-5
7:00PM-7:45PM

JAN. 28, 2026
FEB. 25, 2026
MAR. 25, 2026
APRIL 29, 2026
MAY 20, 2026

Register via 4HOnline
wi.4honline.com

Positive Youth Development Institute
DIVISION OF EXTENSION
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Wildlife & Woods

CAREERS & COMPETITION VIRTUAL SERIES

FREE SERIES: FOR YOUTH GRADES 6-13
7:00PM-7:45PM

JAN. 26, 2026
FEB. 23, 2026
MAR. 23, 2026
APRIL 27, 2026
MAY 18, 2026

Register via 4HOnline
wi.4honline.com

Positive Youth Development Institute
DIVISION OF EXTENSION
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Wisconsin 4-H is excited to offer two Wildlife & Woods virtual series in 2026 - Explorations and Careers & Competitions!

Wildlife & Woods Explorations are suggested for grades K-5 through elementary school youth and their families. The sessions will be interactive and will include wildlife, forestry, wildlife art and more. Register here: <https://26wildlifeexplorations.4honline.com/>

Wildlife & Woods Careers & Competitions Series are suggested for middle school through high school youth and their families. The sessions will be interactive and will include guest speakers talking about careers, information about wildlife and forestry competitions and resources available to learn more. Register here: <https://26wildlifecareers.4honline.com/>

You can also find the registration in your 4HOnline profile on the events tab.



Youth who join 4-H are often excited about the many, many projects they can choose to explore. There are so many Sparks (or things they want to learn about)! Yet, if their Spark doesn't have a local project leader to support their learning, that excitement can turn to questions. They may not know how to get started on their own. Clover to the rescue!! Clover is an online smorgasbord of sparks, interactive activities, and fun. It was created by the National 4-H Council in collaboration with more than 100 universities throughout the United States. And it's FREE and ready for youth, parents, and educators to dive into. [Go to 4-h.org/clover](https://4-h.org/clover)

4-H Volunteer Information and Resources - we have provided loads of great information to help you feel comfortable and confident about the basics of 4-H . Explore the Volunteer Resources website at:

<https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/resources/volunteer-resources/>



**SCAN THE QR CODE
AND SHOW YOU ARE
4-EVER GREEN**



Check Out These Event Calendars

The calendars below show events available in surrounding areas and statewide. To filter by county or event type, use the check boxes on the left to narrow the results.

* To find 4-H specific events see this site

<https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/opportunities/calendar/>

* To find workshops, classes and other events hosted by University of Wisconsin-Extension see this site:

<https://extension.wisc.edu/events/>

Badger Talks is pleased to present a LIVE series of talks on topics that intend to inspire, delight, and pleasantly distract in a time we are all needing positive experiences. Tune in to hear experts on a variety of interesting and engaging topics. For more information see:

<https://badgertalks.wisc.edu/badger-talks-live/>



UW-Madison Division of Extension Horticulture Program



Have a gardening Question?

Lawn and garden questions

Landscape and gardening information

Plant diagnosis

Plant identification

Soil testing information

Plant disease testing information

Insect identification

hort.extension.wisc.edu/ask-a-gardening-question

ARTICLES:



What's All the Buzz? Woody Plants for Bees, Butterflies, and Other Bee-t-full Pollinators

Learn which floral traits attract different pollinators and explore a long list of woody plant recommendations — including trees, shrubs, evergreens, and vines — that serve as critical pollen and nectar sources throughout the growing season.



Planning and Designing Your Home Landscape

This multi-part article series offers guidance on sketching plans, choosing a landscape style, understanding design principles, selecting plants, incorporating garden structures and more. Whether you're starting from scratch or revamping an existing yard, follow these steps to craft a cohesive landscape.



Planting and Managing Your Own Prairie

Establishing a native plant community is as much an art as it is a science. It involves careful planning, planting, and managing the plot long term. Learn the history of prairies in North America and how to create your own prairie landscape. Plus, find helpful plant descriptions of popular forbs, shrubs, and grasses featured in this extensive publication.

Raising Wisconsin's Children Conference 2026

For parents, professionals, and anyone caring for Wisconsin's kids



Free & Online – Join live or watch later!

Helping Children Thrive When Life Gets Tough



February 4th, 2026
9 am to 4:30 pm



6 hours of continuing ed.
available for Wisconsin childcare providers and social workers

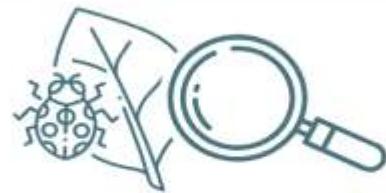


Human Development &
Relationships Institute
DIVISION OF EXTENSION
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Learn More: <https://go.wisc.edu/raisingwi>



Horticulture Program
DIVISION OF EXTENSION
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



Plant Diagnostics

The Step-by-Step Approach to Identifying Plant Problems

Feb. 1–April 30, 2026 | 100% Online | Self-Paced

Learn more and register
go.wisc.edu/ExtPlantDiagnostics

Early Bird registration: Dec. 9–Jan. 19 | Registration closes: Jan. 29, 2026

GROUNDHOG DAY

WORD SEARCH

Can you find the words hidden in the puzzle?



G	R	O	U	N	D	H	O	G	C	F	V
S	E	J	A	L	P	R	M	U	O	N	F
E	H	R	X	O	E	V	T	R	A	O	E
A	T	L	S	T	S	D	E	B	C	I	B
S	E	K	N	H	O	C	Q	U	K	T	R
O	A	I	V	W	A	G	O	R	H	C	U
N	W	R	U	S	V	D	T	R	A	I	A
S	S	I	T	F	E	R	O	O	T	D	R
P	U	N	X	S	U	T	A	W	N	E	Y
F	M	Y	A	T	I	O	E	H	G	R	U
N	H	I	B	E	R	N	A	T	E	P	X
B	Y	D	G	N	I	R	P	S	U	M	E



GROUNDHOG

BURROW

SPRING

FORECAST

FEBRUARY

SEASONS

WEATHER

PREDICTION

SHADOW

WINTER

PUNXSUTAWNEY

HIBERNATE

