



CLOVER CHRONICLES

December 2023

Isabella County

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Beef Weigh-In

Saturday, December 2
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Isabella County Fairgrounds



All beef project members must bring their market beef animals to the fairgrounds to be weighed and tagged. Each member may weigh-in two animals.

Wood Frame Needed for 4-H Quilt

We are looking for a volunteer to make a wood frame for the 4-H quilt. If you or someone you know are interested, please contact Kristi at schrei61@msu.edu.

Horse Clubs

If you or your club are going to show horses at the fair, a volunteer leader from your club is required to attend the monthly Horse Leader meetings, which are held on the first Tuesday of every month.

4-H Day at the Breslin Center

Saturday, February 24, 2024

ALL 4-H families are invited to attend the seventeenth annual celebration of MSU Extension and Michigan 4-H at the Spartan Women's basketball game as they take on Rutgers.

Time: Game time is 2:00pm. As in year's past, there will be games and activities on the concourse of the Breslin in advance of the game beginning at 12:30 p.m.

Tickets: Ticket reservations will begin in the mid-December. Look for additional information in December on the [event website](#).

Attire: Participants are asked to wear green and white 4-H and/or Extension apparel if possible. We really want to make our presence in the Breslin Center known!

See page 6 for more information.



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CLUB CORNER

Aim High - We welcomed a new member to the club, reviewed information from the November newsletter, and then the teen group brainstormed some ideas for the January meeting. Individual members and families will be making holiday cards that will be given to Commission on Aging for their use.

Clover Valley - Had our November meeting at the Painted Turtle Studio. Members all had a great time choosing an item to paint. This was a great experience for the kids and parents, many thanks to the Painted Turtle for hosting our club.

Evergreen - We had Dr. Brenda from Pol Veterinarian at our November meeting and she talked with us about animal care and animal housing. Then we made Thanksgiving place mats for the Rosebush Manor. We also started planning our annual spaghetti supper fundraiser that will be held in February.

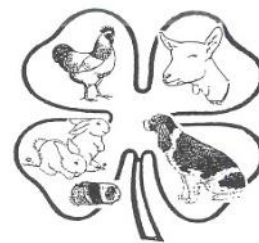
Farm Hands - We painted Christmas ornaments at our November meeting. We also donated hats, gloves, and winter coats to a local elementary school. Members decided to sell cookie dough and cinnamon rolls to help do some club projects. Members and families are looking forward to the coming 4-H year.

Lucky Clover - Our club will be having our monthly meeting at the Isabella County Commission On Aging on December 3. We will be having a Christmas party and decorating cookies for their Meals on Wheels program.

Western Spurs - Our club purchased adult pheasants as an educational fall project. The club met at Apple Hill Farm in Rosebush and released 8 birds as a group and made a large thank you board. Then families were given their own birds to take home to release. In December, our members will be enjoying our annual Holiday door decorating at Rosebush Manor. Members are each assigned a door to decorate and residents vote on their top 3 favorite doors to be awarded prizes.

Small Animal News

- If you sold a rabbit/poultry/goat at the fair and did not attend the banquet, your check will be mailed to you this year. **Please cash your checks as soon as possible because they are only good for 90 days.**
- If you are not on a waiting list with a breeder for your 2024 Goat wethers or does, you should do that soon. You are able to sell a wether (castrated male) or a doe. You can contact Theresa Frederick to help with finding a breeder at (989) 621-6866.
- If you are a rabbit member, you will also want to start making some connections for your 2024 fair project.
- We are looking for teens to consider being fair superintendents. If you are interested, please review the requirements for these positions here: https://www.canr.msu.edu/isabella/isabella_county_4_h/newsletters-and-forms



Attention Small Animal Members (or anyone interested in learning more about this area of 4-H projects)

The small animal superintendents are in the process of planning an opportunity for hearing details, tips, input, and basic educational instruction to share with 4-H members to make experiences better. We will also be asking for your input, so start thinking about your comments and questions now. This event will be scheduled to occur sometime in January or February 2024, and we hope to include all of the small animal species. We will have break out sessions as well as group gatherings. We wanted to put this on your radar now so watch the next couple of newsletters for more specific information. We hope you will be able to join us! - *Small Animal Association*

So, You Want to Show a Pocket Pet

Did you know that you can show a pocket pet at fair?

A pocket pet is house pet other than a cat or a dog. It might be a bird, a hamster, a gerbil, a guinea pig, a snake, a reptile, a ferret, a hermit crab, or even a fish.

How do you show a pocket pet?

Unlike other animals, there are no set rules for how to show a pocket pet. The judge will ask you questions about your animal related to care, maintenance, grooming, feeding, etc. Depending on the type of pet you bring, the judge might ask you to handle your animal.

Do I have to bring my entire habitat?

We understand that some pocket pets have large set-ups/enclosures. We just ask that your animal is kept safe during its time at the fair as well as during its transportation to and from the fairgrounds.

Do I have to do feed records?

Yes. There is a feed record form for pocket pets. We are currently updating the pocket pet feed records. They will be available from the 4-H office after Jan 1, 2024.

Any other requirements?

You need to own your pet by May 1.

Other questions/concerns?

Email Alecia Devantier or Madeline Devantier, pocket pet superintendents, at IsabellaCountyPocketPets@gmail.com





STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Shop the Michigan 4-H store this holiday season



Buy your favorite Michigan 4-H apparel, drinkware, and essentials at the SHOP 4-H Online Store!

Offered in collaboration with National 4-H Council through Shop 4-H, the Michigan 4-H store offers Michigan 4-H branded apparel and other gifts. Visit the store online and find the perfect item for your favorite 4-H'er, volunteer, alumni, professional or fan! The shop is open to the public and a percentage of all proceeds will be donated to Michigan 4-H.

To order Michigan 4-H specific items, visit <https://bit.ly/30pdNJw>. The store will remain open beyond the holiday season to continue offering Michigan 4-H branded gear to the Michigan 4-H community.

December 2: Oakland County Tack & Craft Sale

Springfield Oaks Activity Center, Davisburg

Come shop for one of a kind unique holiday gifts! Admission to the sale is \$1. All are welcomed to attend.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulting10111-8-23>

December 12: Wild Spartans – Casting for a Career in Coldwater Conservation

Online

Dive into the Great Lakes and rivers to explore their coldwater residents! Meet the Great Lakes Engagement Coordinator for Trout Unlimited, Jamie Vaughan. Learn about her field work and the education and career path she followed to get there.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/wild-spartans-series-2023-2024dec>

MSU Extension Listening Session Series

Various locations

MSU Extension is holding a series of public listening sessions. Through these sessions, MSU Extension hopes to gather input on where the organization is, what they do well, and where there are opportunities for improvement. This feedback will be used to help shape MSU Extension's priorities and service for years to come. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend!

- **Dec. 11 - Marquette** - 4-6:30 p.m. - Northern Center, Northern Michigan University
- **Dec. 12 - Grayling** - 4-6:30 p.m. - Kirtland College Event Center
- **Dec. 13 - Frankenmuth** - 4:30-7 p.m. - Saginaw Valley Research and Extension Center
- **Dec. 14 - Muskegon** - 4-6:30 p.m. - Muskegon Community College
- **Dec. 18 - Kalamazoo** - 4-6:30 p.m. – Delta Hotels Kalamazoo Conference Center

Pre-registration is highly encouraged. Walk-in registrations may be limited due to facility capacity. Register now at <http://events.anr.msu.edu/listeningseries>

Kettunen Center Inventory Closeout

Kettunen Center was the first 4-H volunteer and youth training center in the nation, owned and operated by the Michigan 4-H Foundation from 1961 to 2021. The center's remaining merchandise, such as sweatshirts, t-shirts, jackets, mugs and more, is now available for sale! We know the Kettunen Center meant so much to the 4-H community and this is an opportunity to purchase something by which to remember the center. Purchase yours today at <https://mi4hfdtn.org/shopkett/>.

KETTUNEN
CENTER
MERCHANDISE
SALE
SHOP NOW





STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

MSU Extension announces statewide public listening sessions

Adapted from: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/msu-extension-announces-statewide-public-listening-sessions-in-november-and-december>

Whether it's supporting the dedicated professionals who drive the state's agriculture economy or empowering children to develop leadership skills, helping others is central to the mission of Michigan State University Extension, the community outreach arm of the university.

"Service is at the core of who we are," said Quentin Tyler, director of MSU Extension. "As we think strategically about our organization, we value input from those we serve most of all."

With that in mind, MSU Extension is holding a series of public listening sessions at various locations across the state as part of an ongoing strategic direction process. These sessions will begin in late November and continue through mid-December.

Through these sessions, the organization hopes to gather input from a diverse group of people to determine where MSU Extension is, what is working well and opportunities for improvement. This feedback will be used to help shape MSU Extension's priorities and service for years to come.

Each listening session will begin with a welcome from MSU Extension leadership and staff. Then, participants will be divided into two groups – external participants and partners will gather in one room, and MSU Extension faculty and staff will gather in another. In each of these rooms, participants will be invited to share their perspectives and insights through a series of facilitated activities. Questions will center on topics such as: emerging social, economic, and other trends that participants expect will impact them in the future; what participants know MSU Extension for; what participants believe MSU Extension does well, and what they think can be improved; and what participants envision a thriving MSU Extension would look like in the future. Common themes heard from participants will be identified and reflected to the entire group for each activity.

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend – youth, parents, community and statewide partners, all MSU Extension-affiliated faculty and staff, and curious community members. Translation and interpretation services, as well as other accommodations, may be available upon request.

Listening Session Locations and Dates:

- **Nov. 28** - Detroit - 1-3:30 p.m. - MSU Detroit Center
- **Nov. 28** - Troy - 6-8:30 p.m. - Troy Continuing Education Building
- **Nov. 29** - East Lansing - For public attendees only, 9-11:30 a.m. - Hannah Community Center
- **Nov. 29** - East Lansing - For MSU Affiliated Staff only, 1-3:30 p.m. - MSU Campus, Conservatory
- **Dec. 11** - Marquette - 4-6:30 p.m. - Northern Center, Northern Michigan University
- **Dec. 12 - Grayling** - 4-6:30 p.m. - Kirtland College Event Center
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- **Dec. 18 - Kalamazoo** - 4-6:30 p.m. – Delta Hotels Kalamazoo Conference Center

Pre-registration is highly encouraged. Walk-in registrations may be limited due to facility capacity. Register now at events.anr.msu.edu/listeningseries. Questions? Contact Kathy Walicki at walicki@msu.edu or Marie Garcia at garci434@msu.edu.



Michigan 4-H Day



at the

Breslin Center



February 24, 2024

What: Celebrate MSU Extension's 4-H youth with the MSU Women's Basketball team as they take on the Rutgers Women's Basketball team.

When: February 24, 2024. **Ishbia Gate (formerly Southwest Harrison)** will open for 4-H and MSU Extension guests at **12:30 p.m.** Game time will be **2:00 p.m.**

Why: To celebrate Michigan 4-H youth, 4-H volunteers and 4-H programs!

Who: The Michigan 4-H community including MSU Extension and 4-H youth, volunteers, partners, stakeholders, alumni, staff and their families!

Cost: Tickets are **FREE** for the guests listed above.
Tickets are available through your county MSU Extension office.

Transportation & parking: **FREE** for school buses, all other buses are \$20. Cars are \$5. Contact your county Extension office to confirm if transportation may be coordinated.

Attire: Show your pride by wearing your green and white 4-H or MSU Extension apparel.

Extras:

- Hear fellow 4-H'ers lead the 4-H pledge.
- Explore the wide range of 4-H programming with games and activities on the concourse.

Get in the game!

Tickets will be available mid-December. For ordering information, visit <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-day-at-the-breslin>

For additional information, contact your county MSU Extension office or email **Laura Potter-Niesen** at potterla@msu.edu

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Website:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/isabella/>



<https://www.facebook.com/IsabellaCounty4H/>

2024 4-H calendars will be available soon. We will send out an email and post on our 4-H Facebook page when they are ready and where you can pick them up.

SAVE THE DATES

Beef Weigh-In
December 2, 2023

Dairy Feeder Weigh-In
March 16, 2024

4-H Exploration Days at MSU
June 19-21, 2024

Isabella County Youth & Farm Fair
July 20 - 27, 2024

**WISHING EVERYONE A VERY
HAPPY & SAFE
HOLIDAY SEASON!!!**

Isabella County 4-H Calendar

December 2	Beef Weigh-In @ Fairgrounds	9 AM - 11 AM
5	Teen Horse Leaders @ Maranatha Baptist Church	6 PM
5	Horse Leaders @ Maranatha Baptist Church	6:30 PM
25 - Jan 2	OFFICE CLOSED	

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"Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by contacting the MSU Extension office at (989) 317-4079 at least 7 days prior to the scheduled event to ensure sufficient time to make arrangements. Requests received after this time will be met when possible."

Kristi Schreiber, 4-H Program Coordinator
schrei61@msu.edu

Nonie Gross, Secretary
Monica Jean, Field Crops Educator
Eric Karbowski, District 6 Director
Kara Lynch, Food Safety Educator
Misty Oebel, Farm Stress Educator
Sabrina McGee, SNAP-ED PI