



CLOVER CHRONICLES

November 2024

Isabella County

Inside this issue:

<i>Club Corner</i>	2
<i>Honor Clubs</i>	2
<i>Fall Paper Clover Campaign</i>	3
<i>Small Animal News</i>	3
<i>Statewide Calendar</i>	4
<i>Statewide 4-H News</i>	5
<i>PITCH-ER This!</i>	6
<i>4-H Calendar</i>	7

Meet Our New 4-H Coordinator, Liz (Albaugh) Antvelink!

Liz has been involved with Isabella County 4-H since her childhood and has continued to volunteer since completing her 4-H days. She participated in various exhibits at the Isabella County Fair, including showing horses, chickens, dairy feeders, and many arts and crafts. She was highly involved in a variety of community service activities including camp counselor, Master Gardener Program, PEP Program, Camp Clean up, and State Horse Show.



After graduating from Sacred Heart Academy in 2013, Liz pursued higher education and played softball for two years at Kellogg Community College, and then at Cornerstone University. In 2018, she graduated with a bachelor's degree in business administration.

Liz expressed her excitement about leading the Isabella County 4-H program alongside dedicated volunteers. She credits the program for shaping her into the person she is today and hopes to instill similar values in others.

Please feel free to welcome her by emailing: antveli3@msu.edu



Protected Under 18 U.S.C. 707

Beef Weigh-In
 Saturday, December 14
 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.

CLUB CORNER

Crackerjack - At our meeting, we planned and discussed our annual Christmas baking and caroling activities. We will gather to bake cookies and other delicious treats in preparation for making gift baskets that will be delivered to 12 different community members. We will sing 2 songs and present a gift basket at each of the 12 homes.

Dairy Dreamers - Our club had a very challenging Dairy Days this summer but they rose to the occasion. There were many changes with the concerns about the bird flu and having to compete without their coach but they all did a great job! Here are some of the results:

Senior Division - Judging, 2nd place Team Overall, 3rd place Team Reasons / Overall Individuals - 4th

Chloe Steiner, 5th Gracie Triick, 9th Ross Kelsey, Individuals Reasons- 2nd Ross Kelsey, 3rd Chloe

Steiner / Management - 1st Place Team, Individuals- 1st Chloe Steiner, 7th Megan Wilson, 8th Ross

Kelsey / Junior Division - Judging, Individuals 2nd Isaiah Dorland Overall, 5th Reasons Isaiah Dorland,

Grace Derby- Perfect Parts / Novice Division - Judging, 2nd Place Team, Overall Individuals- Max

Deters 4th, Adair Deters 9th Ross, Chloe, and Megan all went on to compete at WDE in Madison representing Michigan!

Farm Hands - We welcomed a few new members at our October meeting. Members also started a painting project and discussed next year's 4-H year.

Western Spurs - We enjoyed a simple fall meeting with lots of Halloween candy welcoming new members and the entire club did round table introductions saying their name and what projects they will be participating in. We practiced the 4-H pledge and went around the room repeating it. Passed out livestock buyer photos and how to write thank you cards for buyers and award sponsors and hand delivering these. We ended the meeting answering enrollment questions, discussing our upcoming holiday community service events and what community projects the group would like to do in 2025.

2023-24 4-H Honor Clubs

Congratulations to the following clubs for being chosen as Honor Clubs for the 4-H program year of 2023-24. Each club received a monetary award from the Isabella County 4-H Program Council for their outstanding participation and organization.

Aim High, Country Neighbors, Evergreen, Pony Creek

Award Winners

The 4-H Meritorious Service Awards and the 4-H Alumni Award were announced at the Recognition Banquet on October 10.

We thank these winners for their dedication and continuous support for 4-H. Your years of hard work and assistance are greatly appreciated!

Congratulations to:

Angella Coldwell - Meritorious Service Award, 4-H Leader

Biewer Sawmill - Meritorious Service Award, Friend of 4-H

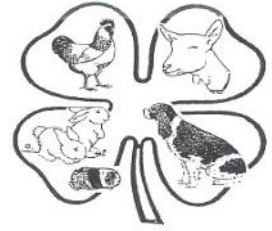
Kourtney Collin- 4-H Alumni Award

Fair Trophy Sponsors for 2025

There will be several trophies needing sponsors for the 2025 Fair, if you are interested please email the Extension Office with your name, address and phone number. Trophies range in price starting at \$20.

Small Animal News

- At the Small Animal Buyer Appreciation Banquet we honored Pam Travis & Robert Devantier as the 2024 Meritorious Service Award winners for their continued support of the youth of Isabella County for so many years.
- 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 2025 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 2025 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



4-H Council Representatives

The following volunteer leaders were selected to be 4-H Council representatives:

- Colleen Harke
- Sarah Kelsey
- Mary Anne Tompkins

The following volunteer leader was selected to be a 4-H Council representative for another term:

- Don Kistler

4-H Council officers are as follows:

President - Kourtney Collin
 Vice President - Toni Morgenstern
 Treasurer - Darlene Misenhelder
 Secretary - Becki Crampton

Seeking Teen 4-H Council Representatives

What is the Isabella County 4-H Council?

The 4-H Council is the main decision-making body for the county 4-H program. It is responsible for working with the paid staff to support county 4-H program planning, administration and policy making. The Council is charged with keeping track of "the big picture" for our county 4-H program. It assists with volunteer recruitment, 4-H awareness building, and it oversees things such as member and volunteer recognition and the county award program. Monthly meetings (the 4th Tuesday of the month) are held at Lincoln Township Hall and are open to all 4-H leaders and interested people.

Link to Teen Representative application:

http://www.canr.msu.edu/isabella/isabella_county_4_h/newsletters-and-forms

Tractor Supply Fall Paper Clover Promotion

November 29th – December 15th

This is a great community service opportunity!

Help is needed (youth & adults) to work the table at the store for the fall Paper Clover Campaign that will run November 29 - December 15 at Tractor Supply Company (TSC). TSC is a great supporter of 4-H!

We are asking members, families, and clubs to help promote this event at our TSC store. Clubs are encouraged to do a fundraiser at the store (need to notify Victoria at TSC first). 4-H Council will sponsor a \$25 TSC gift card drawing for anyone that works a shift. Everyone that works will receive a ticket that will be collected and a winner will be drawn.

Contact Liz (antveli3@msu.edu) or Nonie (grossn@msu.edu) if you or your club are interested in participating in the promotion at the store.



STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Support 4-H with the TSC Paper Clover Campaign



To embrace the holiday spirit, the Tractor Supply Company (TSC) Paper Clover campaign has moved from its traditional October dates to November and December this year! Now from Nov. 29 – Dec. 15, TSC customers across the nation will have the opportunity to support 4-H youth by purchasing a \$1 clover at checkouts when shopping both in stores or online at www.TractorSupply.com during the campaign dates.

Funds raised will support county, state and national 4-H programming. To learn more, visit www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/cms/4h.

New for 2024, you can also support 4-H by purchasing three special commemorative 4-H holiday ornaments, now in TSC stores! Proceeds from the sale of ornaments support 4-H.



November 6: Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series - Ways Volunteers Can Spark Big Dreams and Future Careers

Online

November is National Career Development Month! Learn easy activities to help youth explore career pathways and develop skills to be ready for the workforce. Explore tools and resources that allow youth to reflect and prepare for the next steps in their career journey. This session will be offered twice for the convenience of volunteers.

12 - 1 PM: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-ways-volunteers-can-spark-big-dreams-and-future-careers>

7 - 8 PM: www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-ways-volunteers-can-spark-big-dreams-and-future-careers7pm

November 12: Wild Spartan Series – Behind the Scenes in the Life of a Park Ranger

Online

This month's 4-H Wild Spartans will fly into the refuges that many migrating birds depend on for migration. Join us at 6:30 p.m. to meet Andrea Martinson, park ranger for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at the Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge. Learn about her work, and the education and career path she followed to get there. Youth will be encouraged to ask questions to learn more through a live Q&A. This free virtual series is open to 4-H and non-4-H youth ages 12-19 years.

events.anr.msu.edu/wildspartans2024_25/

November 19: Adulting 101 - Cracking the Code to College

Online

The Michigan 4-H Adulting 101 series helps young people prepare for college or life on their own. In this session, explore the admission and application process and get tips on writing your essay.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/college

November 21: Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series - Positive Youth Development 101; Building Strong Relationships Through Every Stage

Online

Understanding the development of youth is crucial for building strong, positive relationships. In this webinar, we will explore the key stages of child and youth development and the common characteristics that young people share as they grow. Learn how to support and engage with youth effectively, recognizing that each young person develops at their own pace. Equip yourself with the knowledge and tools to foster meaningful connections with youth at every stage of their growth.

12 - 1 PM: www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-positive-youth-development-101-building-strong-relationships-through-every-stage

7 - 8 PM: www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-positive-youth-development-101-building-strong-relationships-through-every-stage7pm





STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

Starting the 4-H season off right: Suggestions for the year's first meeting

Adapted from an article by Michelle Neff at www.canr.msu.edu/news/starting-the-4-h-season-off-right-suggestions-for-the-years-first-meeting.

A new 4-H year has started and that means it is time to start thinking about the goals and plans for educational, inspirational and recreational activities for Michigan 4-H clubs! No matter what project youth are participating in, it is important to start the year off right!

MSU Extension has resources for volunteers to help lead and manage their 4-H club on the 4-H Club Development website, www.canr.msu.edu/4hclub/index. A good start to the 4-H year will allow youth members, club leaders and parents to be clear about expectations and plans for the group and be excited for what will take place. Some tips to get you started include:

- Get to know youth and adults and share about 4-H! Clubs transition from year to year. There may be members new to 4-H, youth trying new project areas, and members who have left or transitioned to different activities. Make sure everyone knows each other with a fun icebreaker activity.
- Prepare a list of activities for the year. The 4-H year goes fast and there is a lot to do in a short period of time. Preparing a list of club activities for meetings is important to ensure youth are learning the life and technical skills of their 4-H project.
- Create a calendar. Once you have your activities picked out, it's time to plan when and where it will all happen!



MSU Extension hosts successful second Michigan 4-H Day at the Capitol

On October 9, MSU Extension hosted the second Michigan 4-H Day at the Capitol to showcase the positive impact of the Michigan 4-H program and bring additional visibility to its effects. The event was held in the atrium of Heritage Hall – the Capitol Visitor's Center.

"We were so excited to bring this event back in 2024," said Deanna East, MSU Extension associate director who served as the event emcee. "Michigan 4-H is certainly worth celebrating every day of the year and we are grateful for the opportunity to highlight this impactful program to our state's leaders."

Michigan 4-H Day at the Capitol was attended by legislators, stakeholders and members of the public. At the event, attendees visited information booths hosted by Michigan 4-H youth and staff. A brief program featured East as well as: legislative host Representative Reggie Miller; MSU President Kevin Guskiewicz; Emma Young, policy analyst for Governor Whitmer and a Michigan 4-H alumna; Everett Howell, Michigan 4-H youth from Leelanau County; and Brianna Sierra, Michigan 4-H youth from Genesee County.

"The Michigan 4-H program serves an incredible number of youth each year but we hope to reach even more young people in the years ahead" continued East. "Elevating awareness of the program is one of our primary goals for Michigan 4-H Day at the Capitol and we believe this event will help connect more youth with our program and all that Michigan 4-H has to offer."

The program was livestreamed on the Michigan 4-H Facebook and can be viewed at www.facebook.com/Michigan4H.



Mich. 4-H youth with Rep. Miller (fourth from left).



A BRIGHT IDEA TO IMPROVE OUR COMMUNITY

PITCH-ER THIS! is a youth venture competition for students in Gratiot & Isabella Counties. Student teams of one to four will be paired with a community mentor who will help them develop their idea and prepare for their big pitch. Ideas may include anything from programs and events to technology and arts that will help people achieve their full potential through quality education, financial stability and healthy lifestyles. A selected panel of judges and community members will vote for their favorite ideas. United Way of Gratiot & Isabella Counties will provide funding to help bring the top idea(s) to life. Apply online at uwgic.org/pitch no later than November 30, 2023.

APPLICATION DEADLINE:
NOVEMBER 29, 2024

FINAL TEAMS SELECTED:
DECEMBER 13, 2024

MAKE YOUR PITCH:
FEBRUARY 22, 2025



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



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

SAVE THE DATES

TSC Fall Paper Clover Campaign

November 29 - Dec 15

Beef Weigh-In

December 14

4-H Exploration Days

June 18-20, 2025

Isabella County Youth & Farm Fair

July 19 - 26, 2025

Isabella County 4-H Calendar

Nov 5	Horse Leaders @ Maranatha Baptist Church, Mt. Pleasant	6:30 PM
11	OFFICE CLOSED	
26	4-H Council @ Lincoln Twp Hall	6:30 PM
28-29	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."

Nonie Gross, Secretary
Liz Antvelink, 4-H Program Coordinator
Monica Jean, Field Crops Educator
Eric Karbowski, District 6 Director
Kara Lynch, Food Safety Educator
Misty Oebel, Farm Stress Educator
Sabrina McGee, SNAP-ED CNI