



FEBRUARY 2025

4-H Family News

Livingston County



Male Chaperone Needed for 4-H Exploration Days from June 18-20th at MSU

4-H Exploration Days is a pre-college program welcomes youth ages 12-19 to explore their future, try new things and experience college life! During this three-day event, youth will gain confidence and independence through hands-on learning and make friends for a lifetime.

Last year, Livingston County had 12 youth attend but we do not have a male chaperone for this event. We are looking for adults ages 21+ years old who are already 4-H volunteers or willing to become a 4-H Volunteer to attend. There will be no cost to attend but volunteers will need to arrive on campus on the morning of June 18th and stay until the afternoon of the 20th. Chaperones are responsible for supervising youth and helping with other assigned tasks at the event. All meals are provided and there is usually some free Dairy Store Ice Cream!

If you are interested, please contact Jenny Speyer, speyerje@msu.edu

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS:

Animal Project Committee Meeting

February 4th at 7 pm at the MSU Extension Office

Livingston County 4-H Tack Sale

February 8th from 10- 2pm at the Hartland Educational Support Service Center

Swine Workshop

February 12th at 7 pm at the MSU Extension Office

Grand Equestrians Committee Meeting

February 25th at 7 pm at the MSU Extension Office

Cloverbud Spring Break Camp

March 25-27th at LESA

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COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Volunteers Needed for Drop-In 4-H Craft Project Evenings



The Livingston County 4-H Staff is planning to host drop-in 4-H craft project evenings on select Fridays in February-May 2025. These programs will allow youth ages 5-19 (cloverbuds will need a parent/adult to accompany them) to try out a few craft projects provided by the 4-H staff.

We are looking for 4-H volunteers and teens who are interested in attending and teaching 4-H'ers a project. These can be any project, but ideas include card making, felting, painting, drawing, etc.

If you are interested, please reach out to Jenny Speyer, speyerje@msu.edu.

Volunteers and Donations Needed for Livingston County 4-H Tack Sale Clean Up

Livingston County 4-H Horse Committee needs your help for their Annual Tack Sale. You can help in two ways, one, we still need volunteers to help with the 4-H Tack Sale Clean Up on Saturday February 8th at the Hartland Educational Support Service Center, 9525 E Highland Rd, Howell, MI.

Another way to help, is to donate a silent auction item. Donations can be dropped off at the Vendor/Volunteer check in table 8 am – 10 am of the sale on February 8th. Smaller items can be dropped off to the MSU Extension office before noon Friday February 7th.



Please drop off at large items at the sale as we do not have storage space in the MSU Extension Office. Many items will be on sale after the holidays that would make great donations. Horse-themed toys, clothing or gifts, or any self-care products are always a big hit. If you have any questions about donations or the silent auction, please contact Lynn Perry at lynn_perry@yahoo.com or 517-376-1164.

4-H Online Re-enrollment Reminder



Don't forget that you need to re-enroll youth and 4-H volunteers each year in 4-H Online. Now sure if you re-enrolled? Visit [4-H Online](#) and log into your account. Forgot your password? Use the forgot my password link at the bottom to make a new password. For most 4-H programs, youth must be currently enrolled in 4-H online to attend.

You will also stop getting newsletters and communications from the 4-H Office at the end of this month. Make sure to enroll to stay in the know!



COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Cloverbud Spring Break Camp is Back in 2025

We are excited to announce the Livingston County 4-H Cloverbud Spring Break Day Camp is back! The Camp will take place at the Livingston Educational Service Agency from March 25th – 27th from 9 am – 3 pm. This day camp will be STEAM focused for ages 5-7 years old with educational, hands-on activities. Families can select to attend 1, 2, or 3 days of the camp. Cost is \$10 a day and snacks are provided.

This camp is open to families already enrolled in 4-H and non-4-H families who enroll before the first day of camp! Registration is being sent to 4-H families first.



We are also looking for teens between the ages of 13-19 years old who would be interested in volunteering as teen counselors for at least 1 day of camp. Youth must be enrolled in 4-H by the first day of the camp, but if youth have friends not in a 4-H club or currently enrolled, they are still able to volunteer if they enroll before camp starts. This is a great way for teens to gain leadership skills, to work with youth, and a great thing to put on a resume or college application. Adults who are interested in volunteering can contact Jenny at speyerje@msu.edu.

Registration: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/livcocloverbudcamp2025/>

Join us for the 4-H Livestock Husbandry Workshops this Winter/Spring



Do you know a 4-H'er looking to add a new livestock species to your 2024-2025 4-H project list, or looking to brush up on your livestock husbandry knowledge? Join us this winter for our free Livestock Husbandry Workshop Series! Youth can attend one or multiple sessions. These sessions will not have animals present, but will be interactive!

Workshops will take place at the MSU Extension Office Conference room at 2300 E Grand River Ave, Howell MI 48843 at 7 pm on the below dates:

- February 12th - Swine
- April 8th - Hands on Livestock Workshop *Location TBD

To help us prepare for refreshments, space, and door prizes, please RSVP at: <http://bit.ly/3TdBNYz>
Questions? Reach out to Kat at Krollkat@msu.edu or 517-552-6903.



COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Grand Equestrians Therapeutic Riding Program Needs You!



Grand Equestrians Therapeutic Riding Program needs more volunteers. Our program assists children with special needs through therapeutic horseback riding. There are many volunteer opportunities available for adults and youth. Some tasks include:

- Grooming horses
- Tacking horses
- Helping children get ready to ride
- Support riders during lessons

We also show at the Fowlerville fairgrounds!

Are you creative? Are you a social media wizard? In addition to regular volunteers, we are now seeking a Social Media Coordinator volunteer position.

Do you have a passion for both horses and teaching? We are also looking to add an additional paid instructor to our program.

Contact us at the email below for information on any of the opportunities above and more!
Email grandequestrians@gmail.com to sign up or for further information!





COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Join us on April 3rd for Pasta-Bilities Cooking Class



Join 4-H Program Instructor Jenny Speyer and Community Nutrition Instructor Shelley Frazier, will be hosting 4-H Cooking Workshops this April 3rd from 6:00-7:30 pm at the MSU Extension Office. At this workshop, we will be exploring how to cook and make pasta!

These workshops are designed for ages 8-12 years old but 12-19 can also participate. Please make sure to sign up for each youth separately on the registration as we are capped at 12 youth per session. We will do our best to accommodate dietary restrictions and food allergies.

There are limited spots for this class, so please sign up now:
https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8iUjtBZhwGrp7Om

Livingston County 4-H Horse Committee Tack Sale: Saturday February 8th

It's time to mark your calendar for the Livingston County 4-H Hartland Tack and Craft Sale on Saturday, February 8th from 10 am – 2 pm. This Sale will take place in the Hartland Educational Support Service Center Gymnasium at 9525 E. Highland Rd, Howell, MI 48843. General and silent auction proceeds will be used for the Livingston County 4-H Horse Committee. This is the primary fundraiser for the Livingston County 4-H Horse Committee, and we need your help to spread the word about this Tack Sale and help fund our program!

The public are invited to buy or sell and we have spaces available for 6'x8' for \$25 and 6'x16' for \$40. There is a \$5 discount for 4-H members. Tables are available for an additional \$10. To reserve your space/table, use the link below to the flyer and reservation form.



Fees are non-refundable and all reservations must be phoned or emails in with payment postmarked by February 1st, 2025. There will be a \$5 late fee for any reservations made after February 1st.

New this year! There will be a silent auction fundraiser with a drawing at 1:45 pm. Winners must be present to claim their prize.

For any questions or more information, please contact Paula at 517-404-4544 or hartlandtacksale@gmail.com. Check out the [full flyer on our website](#).



COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Did you Know that “Hippology” Means “the Study of the Horse”?



The Livingston County Hippology teams, coached by Melissa Labadie and Shelley Steadman, are continuing to learn more about horses in preparation for the state contest on March 15th. As part of their study, in January they participated in the Equine Levels of Achievement Program with the following results:

Achieved Level 1:

Ally Carlson (It's A Pleasure), Ashley Baize (Rangers) and Lucas Guerin (Livingston Legacies)

Achieved Levels 1 and 2:

- Ava Kraeling, MacKenzie Lucier, Hallie Wilson (It's A Pleasure)
- Adelyn Grima, Evelyn Grima (Barnyard Banditz)
- Kara Peters (Gusty Acres)

Currently working toward Level 3:

- Alyson Labadie, Thérèse Hansen, Danykah Muck (Barnyard Banditz)



Study Guides for Levels 1, 2, and 3 are available online at:

https://www.canr.msu.edu/livingston/livingston_county_4_h/horse-committee-and-horse-pony-project-information.

There will be more opportunities to be interviewed on Levels 1 and 2 in April and May this year. Those dates will be announced when scheduled. Note that achieving Level 1 is a requirement to represent Livingston County at the State 4-H Horse show this August.

The Equine Levels of Achievement Program has 5 levels total; Level 1 knowledge includes tying, leading, grooming, feeding, and tack care. Level 2 focuses on parts of the horse and tack, cooling out, hoof care, and immunizations. You do not need a horse for Levels 1 and 2. Level 3 focuses on demonstrating knowledge of showmanship and riding. Levels 4 and 5 are advanced topics covering first aid and colic care, stable management, and equine careers exploration.

Any questions about the Equine Levels of Achievement Program can be directed to the Levels Coordinator, Lynn Perry, 517.376.1164.



STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Get free tickets for Michigan 4-H Day at the Breslin!



Make plans for a fun day in East Lansing on March 1! Join with other members of the 4-H community for Michigan 4-H Day at the Breslin. This fun family event will be held at the Jack Breslin Student Events Center as the MSU Women's Basketball team takes on the Minnesota Golden Gophers.

In addition to the game, attendees will also enjoy 4-H activities around the concourse. Doors will open at 12:30 p.m., with tip-off scheduled for 2 p.m. Participants are encouraged to show their pride and wear green and white 4-H or MSU Extension apparel.

Tickets are free to 4-H youth and their families as well as 4-H volunteers and their families. For more information and to order tickets, visit www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-day-at-the-Breslin.

A member of the 4-H alumni community? Consider also stopping by the 4-H Alumni Tip-Off Reception on March 1! More information and registration at www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-alumni-tip-off-reception.

February 4: Crash Course: Credit Survival 101

Online

Youth learn the basics of credit: advantages and disadvantages, credit vs. debit, credit scores, interest, and tips to managing credit wisely.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/crashcreditcoursefeb-4

February 11: 4-H Wild Spartans – The Relationship Between Tribes and Fish

Online

Plunge into the world of Great Lakes fisheries and meet Jason Smith, Great Lakes fisheries assessment biologist for the Bay Mills Indian community. Learn about his work, and the education and career path he followed to get there. Ask questions to learn more through a live Q&A. Open to youth ages 12-19 years.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/wild-spartans-monthly-wildlife-fisheries-webinar-series-february-2024-2025

February 12: Online Parent Talk System Webinar Series

Online

A course for caregivers to improve communication and provide strategies for raising confident, caring, responsible children. This weekly series will be offered Wednesdays from Feb. 12 – Mar. 19 at no cost.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/the-parent-talk-system-series-february-march-25

February 13: Ace the Interview: Tips to Land Your Dream Job

Online

Through the partnership of Toyota and Michigan 4-H, youth will explore a variety of career paths in the automotive industry as well as build workforce readiness skills to take on their goals. This second offering in the five-part webinar series will focus on tips for a successful interview.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/ace-the-interview

February 15: 4-H Animal Science Career Quest 2025

Online

A career exploration program for youth ages 12-19 interested in pursuing a career in animal science. Learn about everything animal science has to offer and many career skill-building activities through hands-on sessions. Register by Feb. 3.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-animal-science-career-quest-2025

February 25: 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series; Facilitation Skills for 4-H Clubs

Online

Gain essential facilitation skills to engage every voice and increase efficiency in your 4-H club. This session offers tools to create inclusive, dynamic discussions, making sure all members feel heard while streamlining club activities. This webinar will be offered at two different times:

12 p.m. www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-engaging-every-voice-facilitation-skills-for-dynamic-4-h-clubs-noon

7 p.m. www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-engaging-every-voice-facilitation-skills-for-dynamic-4-h-clubs-7pm





STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS



Apply for the Michigan 4-H State Awards!

Michigan 4-H true leaders ages 11 and older have an opportunity to be recognized for the great work they do in 4-H and develop their career skills by completing a state award application. A Michigan 4-H State Award is the highest honor bestowed on a Michigan 4-H member and provides an opportunity to receive recognition for their engagement in rich learning experiences that result in outstanding knowledge and life-skill development.

State award applications are divided into four categories: Mark of Excellence contest (10-11 years), junior state award (12-15 years), senior state award (16-19 years) and group awards (13-19 years). Each application and selection process varies, dependent on the applicant's age.

More information about the Michigan 4-H State Award process and Mark of Excellence Contest can be found online at <http://bit.ly/stateaward>. Applications are due April 1. For more information, contact your 4-H program coordinator or email Betty Jo Krosnicki at nashbett@msu.edu or Janice Zerbe at rajzerj@msu.edu.

Participate in the World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute

As millions across the globe deal with food insecurity, the World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute (WFP MIYI) offers young people an opportunity to be part of the solution. Held May 8 in East Lansing, or by participating from anywhere else using Zoom video/web conference technology, the event seeks to inspire and prepare the next generation of global leaders to end world hunger.

To participate, youth should be in grades 7-12 and register by the March 15 deadline. As part of the registration process, youth are required to prepare a three- to five-page research paper about a developing country and one of 22 key factors that affect food security. At the event, youth present and discuss their papers with other attendees and research and industry experts.

The top performing students at the WFP MIYI will be selected to attend the World Food Prize Global Youth Institute in Des Moines, Iowa, in October. For more information, visit <https://www.canr.msu.edu/wfpmiyi/>. Registration opens Feb. 1 and closes Mar. 15.



Seeking outstanding agricultural 4-H volunteers

The Michigan 4-H Foundation is seeking nominations of remarkable agricultural 4-H volunteers for the Michigan Farm Bureau (MFB) 4-H Excellence in Agriculture Award. This award recognizes outstanding 4-H volunteers that have exhibited excellence in 4-H youth education and leadership development in the areas of 4-H beef cattle; dairy cattle; goats; horses; horticulture, crops and soils; poultry; rabbits; sheep; swine; and veterinary science.





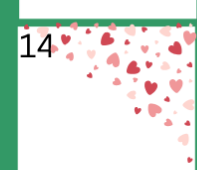


Up to five MFB Excellence in Agriculture Award honorees are recognized each year. Selected recipients will be recognized by both Michigan 4-H and MFB. In addition, honorees receive a \$1,000 grant they designate to a 4-H agricultural program of their choice. The award is supported by an endowment with the Michigan 4-H Foundation that was established by MFB.



Nominations for the MFB Excellence in Agriculture Award should be submitted by March 15. To nominate a deserving individual or learn more about the 4-H Excellence in Agriculture Award, visit <https://mi4hfdtn.org/grants-scholarships/mfb-4-h-excellence-in-agriculture-award/>.



February 4-H Calendar



Sun	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thur	Fri	Sat
						1
2 	3	4 7pm- Animal Project Committee Meeting	5	6  6pm - Cooking Class!	7	8  10am - Tack Sale at HESCC
9	10	11	12  7pm - Swine workshop at MSU Extension office	13	14 	15
16	17 	18	19	20	21	22
23	24 	25 7pm - Grand Equestrians Meeting	26	27	28	



Have a club event you want to highlight? Send it to Kat and we will try our best to add it here!



March 4-H Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thur	Fri	Sat
						1  MSRBA  Convention Rabbit Show - MSU Pavillion
2 MSRBA  Convention Rabbit Show - MSU Pavillion	3	4	5	6	7	8 4-H Spark & Share in Frankenmuth
9	10	11 7pm - Horse Committee Meeting	12	13	14	15
16	17 St. Patrick's Day 	18 7pm - Council Meeting	19	20 HELLO SPRING	21	22
23	24 	25 - 26 Cloverbud Camp		27	28	
Have a club event you want to highlight? Send it to Kat and we will try our best to add it here!						