

4-H Family News

Montcalm County

Happy November!



Don't forget to enroll in 4-H Online before December 1st (new members deadline is April 1st). If you are not seeing your club listed in the system, that means that your club has not submitted their required annual reports, or the club management team is still making its way through the ocean of annual paperwork reviews. If your youth member is in their 18 or older 4-H age, the parent/guardian will not be able to input their name/signature within the acknowledgement section of the application; the youth will need to enter either "N/A" or their name, within the parent/guardian blocks. Here is the most up to date Family Enrollment Guide, for your reference: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/montcalm-county/uploads/files/4-H+Online+Family+Guide+-+rev.+9-1-23.pdf>

Sincerely,
Sunni Haglund
4-H Program Coordinator

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/montcalm-county/>

Montcalm County Committee Meeting times & locations

- Fairboard Association | 1st Monday of the month | 7:00 p.m. | Ash Building – Fairgrounds
- 4-H Dog Committee | 1st Thursday of the month | 6:30 p.m. | Ash Building – Fairgrounds & via zoom (<https://msu.zoom.us/j/93418977992> passcode: 4Hdog)
- 4-H Horse Leaders | 2nd Tuesday of the month | 7:00 p.m. | Ash Building – Fairgrounds & via zoom (<https://msu.zoom.us/j/96502762151> passcode: Horse)
- 4-H Council | 3rd Monday of the month | 6:30 p.m. | via zoom (<https://msu.zoom.us/j/95340301576> passcode: Council)
- 4-H Community Connection Committee (CCC) | 3rd Monday of the month | 7:00 p.m. | via zoom (<https://msu.zoom.us/j/95542684298> passcode: 4HCCC)
- 4-H Small Animal Committee | 4th Monday of the month | 6:00 p.m. | Ash Building - Fairgrounds & via zoom (<https://msu.zoom.us/j/93871161694> passcode: 4Hyouth)
- 4-H Youth Livestock Committee | 4th Monday of the month | 6:30 p.m. | Ash Building - Fairgrounds & via zoom (<https://msu.zoom.us/j/93871161694> passcode: 4Hyouth)

Contact Us:

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msue.montcalm@county.msu.edu



COUNTY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Fairboard Date: 11/3/25
- Veterans Day Tribute Luncheon Date: 11/9/25
- Dog Committee (this month only) Date: 11/10/25
- Horse Leaders Date: 11/11/25
- Advisory Council Date: 11/17/25
- Community Connections Date: 11/17/25
- Pee Wee Program Roundtable Meeting Date: 11/18/25
- County-Wide Dog Practice Date: 11/18/25
- Market Beef Weigh/Tag-in Date: 11/23/25
- Small Animal / Youth Livestock / MCFAAC Date: 11/24/25
- Thanksgiving – Office Closure Date: 11/27-28/25

Times and locations for each 4-H committee meeting can be found on the front page of this newsletter!

Don't forget to visit the Montcalm County Fairgrounds **UPDATED** webpage
<https://montcalmcountyfairgrounds.com/>.

SIGN UP FAIR FAMILY

For Text Updates and Reminders

Text @**MONTCALMCO** TO: 81010



4-H'ers are...

2x

more likely to
have the goal
of being a
leader

3x

more likely to
participate in
community
service

2x

more likely to
report living life
with intentionality
and purpose





4-H Committee Information

Advisory Council – 3rd Monday 6:30 pm – Zoom

Dairy Committee – typically held before/during/after fair

Dog Committee – 1st Thursday 6:30 pm – Ash Building

Community Connections – 3rd Monday following Advisory – Zoom

Horse Committee – 2nd Tuesday 7:00 pm – Ash Building

Small Animal Committee – 4th Monday 6:00 pm – Ash Building

Youth Livestock – 4th Monday 6:30 pm – Ash Building

All 4-H committees are open to any club member or parent (volunteer or not), and they would love to have your input at these meetings. If you are interested in being more involved with one of the committees, or becoming a superintendent or a junior superintendent, please come to their meetings. You can also send an email to Sunni at haglun10@msu.edu, if you're unable to make it to the meeting but would like more information; most meetings have zoom options.

Executive Board Positions:

President

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

Superintendent Positions:

Dairy – Kim / Sally Thomsen

Dog – Dog

Horse – Horse

Goat – Small Animal

Camelid – Small Animal

Rabbit/Cavy – Small animal

Poultry – Small Animal

Record Books – Advisory

Still Exhibit – Advisory

Performing Arts/Style Review – Advisory

Showmanship Sweepstakes – Advisory



4-H Committee Information

Advisory Council – [Bylaws](#)

Community Connections – [Bylaws](#)

Dog Committee – [Bylaws](#)

Horse Committee – [Bylaws](#)

Small Animal Committee – [Bylaws](#)

Youth Livestock – [Bylaws](#)

If you are curious about what each committee is responsible for, feel free to look at their bylaws for more information.

The Montcalm County 4-H Advisory Council is looking for interested members from each club to join the committee. I have pulled the information below, on how the committee is formed and how membership is defined:

This council shall consist of 4-H leaders who will represent the entire membership and leadership of the Montcalm County MSU Extension 4-H Youth Development program. Council membership is open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status or veteran status.

Membership shall be selected as follows:

1. Ten (10) members shall each be elected at large. No more than two (2) adult members per club shall serve at any time. The Nominating Committee shall assure county-wide representation.
2. Delegates shall be nominated by other 4-H leaders. Each nominee shall be an active 4-H volunteer or teen. Each leader will be sent a ballot listing the nominees. Ballots will be sent out before the Recognition Banquet, with a due date of return prior to the Recognition Banquet each year. Timeline is as follows: August 1st- call for nominations, September 1st- nominations due, day after September Council meeting- ballots sent out, September 30th- Ballots due.
3. Each delegate shall be elected for a two (2) year term of service. Five positions shall be up for re-election each year, providing alternating terms of service. Each delegate's term of membership on the Council shall begin with the next meeting following the Recognition Banquet
4. Vacancies shall be filled by the County 4-H Council by appointment to finish the unexpired term.
5. Each elected delegate is a voting delegate. If unable to attend, the delegate may select an alternate to represent him or her at not more than two (2) consecutive meetings. This alternate shall have the right to vote (adults can delegate another adult, teens can delegate another teen). If a delegate has unexcused absences from three (3) meetings in a row, the delegate becomes inactive. Inactive members are unable to vote and their position can be filled if interest arises from another individual.
6. Ten (10) teen leaders shall be elected for a two (2) year term by the ballot sent to each leader before the Recognition Banquet. Five positions shall be up for re-election each year, providing alternating terms of service. Each teen member of the Council shall have the right to vote.



4-H Committee Information

Dog Committee:

Aside from November's meeting, the monthly meetings have changed back to the 1st Thursday at 6:30 pm, in the Ash Building. They are offering county-wide dog practices throughout the year, on a rotating schedule for each practice (see page 16). If your youth is planning to show dog this year, please check out and follow the [4-H Dog Committee Facebook page](#), or stay tuned for future updates via email. Each youth exhibitor will have to participate in at least 2 of the County-Wide dog practices.

Shooting Sports:

4-H Precision Archers is a new archery club that will be having their first meeting in February (see page 18).

***Kim Fouts-Stebbins is our County's Shooting Sports Coordinator. All questions and requests pertaining to the shooting sports program, should go through her first. Her contact is 4hfoutsstebbins@gmail.com

Small Animal Committee:

Save the Date!!! The 2026 Small Animal Showmanship Workshop will be held at the Small Animal Barn on May 16th.

Community Connections Committee:

November Challenge: Do something nice for a Veteran. Submit your photos/blurb to Sunni at haglun10@msu.edu.

December Challenge: Project Night Lights at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital on December 10th. Dress in costume if you want and bring glow sticks. If members want to participate, please contact Kim Pennock at smyrnami@yahoo.com or Sunni at haglun10@msu.edu (see page 17)



The Youth Livestock Committee has voted to introduce incentives for youth members who participate in our meetings. We will be issuing reward cards to each youth who attends a meeting. For every meeting attended, they will receive a stamp on an animal on their card. Once all the animals are stamped, we will host a pizza party at the following meeting!

Their meetings are held at 6:30 PM, on the 4th Monday of each month, in between the Small Animal Committee meeting and the Montcalm County Fair Association Agricultural Committee (Livestock/MCFAAC).

They voted on the following awesome educational topics to focus on for their cold weather month meetings: Jan – Meat Cuts / Feb – Swine feeding/nutrition / March – Get your animals ready for fair



Helpful Links

Resources

https://www.canr.msu.edu/montcalm-county/montcalm_county_4_h/4-h-resources

County Awards and Scholarships

https://www.canr.msu.edu/montcalm-county/montcalm_county_4_h/4-h-scholarships

4-H Youth Thriving Model

<https://helping-youth-thrive.extension.org/home/>

4-H.org – Activity Guides

<https://4-h.org/clover/activity-guides/download-4h-activity-guides/>

MSU 4-H Resources

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/4h/resources>

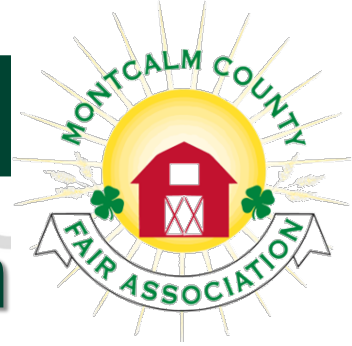
MSU-Extension Montcalm County 4-H Page:

https://www.canr.msu.edu/montcalm-county/montcalm_county_4_h

Club and Volunteer Information: https://www.canr.msu.edu/montcalm-county/montcalm_county_4_h/4-h-club-volunteer-information

Montcalm County 4-H Welcome Packet:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/montcalm-county/uploads/files/Welcome%20Packet.pdf>



MCFA Committee Information

Fairboard – 1st Monday 7:00 pm – Ash Building

MCFA Livestock – 4th Monday 7:00 pm – Ash Building

Marketing Committee – Jackie Nadeau

Buildings and Grounds – Todd Hetherington

Bylaws/Policy & Procedure – Sunni Haglund

Budget and Audit – Lisa Johnson

Rental – Katie Johnson / Brad Heft

Judges – Sunni Haglund / Amanda Ives

**Concessions/Exhibits/Grandstand Events
– Lisa Johnson**

Fairbook / Showworks – Michelle Nitengale

Awards – Tammy Hancock

Kids Day / Special Needs Day – Brad Heft

https://www.canr.msu.edu/montcalm-county/montcalm_county_4_h/fair_information

Committees that could really benefit with more members:

***Bylaws/Policy and Procedures**

***Budget and Audit**

***Judges**

***Awards**

***Kids Day/Special Needs Day**

***Pee Wee Program**

If you are interested in joining any of these committees, please reach out to the individuals next to the committee. If you need contact information, please email Sunni at haglund10@msu.edu or the MCFA Fairboard at MCFAFairboard@gmail.com

Fairboard:

Meets 1st Monday of each month at 7 PM

Superintendent Positions:

Swine – MCFA Livestock

Beef – MCFA Livestock

Sheep – MCFA Livestock



MCFA Committee Updates:

Your 2026 MCFA Board of Directors:

Todd Hetherington

Brad Heft

Lisa Johnson

Jason Nadeau

Tammi Jahnke

Joe Minkel

Jamie Goodrich

Amanda Ives

Tammy Hancock

Shawn Hyde

Tommy Aldridge

Melissa Williams

Dan Humphrey

Jamison German

Eric Christensen

MCFA Agricultural Committee (MCFAAC / Livestock Committee):

Market Beef Weigh In & Tag In

Sunday - November 23rd - 2 to 4 p.m.

Scale at Fairgrounds

Questions can be e-mailed to

MCFLivestock@gmail.com

Montcalm County Fair information will be disseminated via email, facebook, the fair website, and in the 4-H newsletter, as it is known.

<https://montcalmcountyfairgrounds.com/exhibitor-info>



STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

4-H Thriving Model of Positive Youth Development



The 4-H Thriving Model and 4-H Beyond Ready work hand-in-hand to prepare youth for success. The Thriving Model focuses on how quality 4-H experiences help young people grow by building sparks, relationships, and a sense of belonging that leads to thriving. Beyond Ready builds on this foundation by helping youth take what they've learned and apply it school, careers and real life.

Together, they ensure that 4-H youth don't just gain skills, but also the confidence, adaptability, and resilience to use those skills in the future. Through this connection, young people are not only supported in their personal growth today but are equipped to be "beyond ready" for whatever comes next.

Contact your local 4-H staff for more information.

November 10 – December 15: Online Parent Talk System Webinar Series

Online

This parenting workshop is designed to improve communication and provide strategies for raising confident, caring, responsible children. Caregivers of toddlers to teens will explore eliminating unwanted behavior, setting limits, teaching about consequences, giving effective feedback, promoting independence and developing character. Participants will meet for six week on Mondays.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/the-parent-talk-system-series-november-december-2025

November 11: Wild Spartans – Wildfire & Warriors: Science Where You Least Expect It

Online

Meet Michele Richards, natural resources and wildland fire program manager with the Michigan Army National Guard. Learn about her work and the education and career path she followed to get there. This free virtual series is open to 4-H and non-4-H youth ages 12-19 years.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/wild-spartans-monthly-wildlife-fisheries-webinar-series-2025-2026

November 12: 4-H Chef Turkey Cheese Ball

Lenawee County MSU Extension Office, Adrian

Youth ages 5-11 will create a cheese ball that is perfect as a Thanksgiving appetizer.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-chef-turkey-cheese-ball

November 13: Adulthood 101 – Conflict Resolution and Civil Discourse

Online

Participants will learn how to manage disagreements with respect and open-mindedness, paving the way for stronger, healthier relationships. Leave with strategies to approach conflict confidently, express oneself respectfully, and find common ground with others.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulthood-101-toughtalks

November 15: 4-H Holidays Around the World Workshop – Diwali

Flat Rock Public Library, Flat Rock

Open to youth in grades 3–8, this hands-on workshop invites participants to learn about the traditions and cultural significance of Diwali, one of India's most celebrated holidays.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-holidays-workshop-diwali

November 18: Mich. 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series: So You Want to Be a Club Leader?

Online

Thinking about leading a club or want to refresh your leadership skills? Join to learn what it takes to be an effective and inspired club leader—from logistics and communication to culture and connection.

12-1 p.m. session: www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-so-you-want-to-be-a-club-leader-lets-talk-noon

7-8 p.m. session: www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-so-you-want-to-be-a-club-leader-lets-talk-7pm





STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS



Support 4-H with the TSC Paper Clover Campaign

From Nov. 28 – Dec. 14, Tractor Supply Company (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.

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.

Join the 4-H For Good Challenge!

A simple act of kindness can spark a ripple of good — and you can be the spark! National 4-H Council is teaming up with Universal Pictures leading up to the release of *Wicked: For Good* on November 21 by celebrating the power of young people and communities and creating a wave of kindness.

Just like Elphaba and Glinda in *Wicked: For Good*, your choices can change the world. This challenge is open to everyone — youth, families, schools, workplaces, and community groups — and it's your chance to show how one good deed can inspire another.

Join the #4HForGoodChallenge in four easy steps:

1. **Do something good.** Big or small, every act counts. Help out, give back or simply show someone you care.
2. **Share your heart hands.** Snap a pic of your heart hand and write a short post about your good deed.
3. **Post it online.** Use the hashtag #4HForGood and tag 4-H.
4. **Challenge your crew.** Tag for friends and invite them to keep the good growing!



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



On October 8, MSU Extension hosted the third 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're immensely proud of the Michigan 4-H program, which has been shaping futures and transforming communities for more than 115 years," said Quentin Tyler, MSU Extension director. "We're grateful for the opportunity to showcase this remarkable program to our state leaders for the third consecutive year and to bring additional awareness to the life-changing impact of 4-H."

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 was held, featuring Tyler, as well as: Representative Jerry Neyer; MSU President Kevin Guskiewicz; Jackie Venton, Michigan Department of State Chief Operating Officer and a Michigan 4-H alumna; Logan Dole, Michigan 4-H youth from Clare County; and Danykah Muck, Michigan 4-H youth from Livingston County.

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

THE HAUNTED BARN

MONTCALM COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

\$15 PER PERSON

Dates:

9/24-10/25



Extended for one more day: Halloween

Montcalm County Fairgrounds
details

GLOW

NIGHT

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

\$6 PER CLASS

\$3 PER EXPO RUN

\$5 OFFICE FEE

\$1 EXTRA HORSE FEE

EVERYONE WELCOME

EVENTS

Barrels

Down & back

Pole Bending

Indiana Flag Race

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1ST

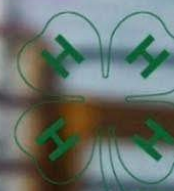
6PM- AT 8784 PECK RD, GREENVILLE, MI

48838

5:30 - EXPOS, BARRELS & POLES

Age groups – 8& under, 9-13, 14-18, 19-34,
35& over

Lets light up the night



Presented to you
by the Montclam
County Jr. horse
superintendens.

Rasing for
awards



MONTCALM COUNTY 4-H

Presents:

**IN HONOR OF
VETERANS DAY**



**JOIN US FOR A TRIBUTE LUNCHEON
RECOGNIZING THOSE WHO SERVED
AND THEIR FAMILIES WHO SUPPORT THEM.**



Pre-registration is required to attend:



Register here: https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bknWA6SESXKowEm



**STANTON AMERICAN LEGION
337 W. DAY ST, STANTON**

9 November 2025 | 1-3 PM

MSU Extension programs and material are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status, or Veteran status.



MONTCALM COUNTY 4-H DOG COMMITTEE



COUNTY-WIDE DOG PRACTICE SCHEDULE

New rule for those showing dogs at the 2026 Fair:

Everybody showing dogs at Fair must attend at least two County Wide Dog practices between now and Fair to show your dogs. You must attend at least one showmanship/ agility practice and at least one obedience/ rally practice.



**Tuesday, November 18th | 6:30 PM | Obedience / Rally
December | No Practice**

Thursday, January 22nd | 6:30 PM | Showmanship / Agility

Tuesday, February 17th | 6:30 PM | Obedience / Rally

Thursday, March 19th | 6:30 PM | Obedience / Rally

Tuesday, April 21st | 6:30 PM | Showmanship / Agility

Tuesday, May 12th | 6:30 PM | Showmanship / Agility

Thursday, May 28th | 6:30 PM | Obedience / Rally

Friday, June 12th | 6 PM | ALL 4 Disciplines



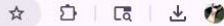
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Please support our 4-H Shooting Sports Club and at the same time enjoy some wonderful coffees and teas

Montcalm County 4-H Community Connections December Challenge

silentobserver.org/program_posts/project-night-lights/



HOME

ABOUT▼

PROGRAMS

EVENTS

WANTED▼

GET INFORMED▼

DONATE▼

SUBMIT A TIP



PROJECT NIGHT LIGHTS

2nd Wednesday of each month at 8:30pm

Silent Observer has partnered with all local law enforcement and first responders on a very special project to benefit the children at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital. Called Project Night Lights, once a month police/fire/ambulance surrounds the Children's Hospital and flashes their lights as a way of brightening up bedtime for these young patients who are facing the fight of their lives. In the hospital, the patients turn their flashlights on and off as a way of acknowledging the support and love they are feeling. The goal - to show these young patients that Silent Observer, law enforcement and the community are standing beside them.

You're invited to join the Montcalm County 4-H Community Connections Committee for Project Night Lights on Wednesday, December 10th! It's a magical and uplifting event geared to help the patients and families at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital feel supported by community members and area first responders. It starts at 8:30 p.m. and lasts around 30 minutes. Learn more at https://www.silentobserver.org/program_posts/project-night-lights/

NEW CLUB



Shooting Sports

4-H PRECISION ARCHERS

🎯 New to archery - or are you an expert?

🎯 Want to shoot some arrows for fun
- or are you working on your skills to attend
state/national championships?



All are welcome! Chance to win prizes!!

1st Meeting: February 1st | 4:40pm | Central Michigan
Sportsman's Club | Stanton Rd, Stanton

Q's? Contact: Kimberly Fouts | 4hfoutsstebbins@gmail.com



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MONTCALM COUNTY 2ND ANNUAL

TACK SALE

ARTS/CRAFTS

2026

TACK/CLOTHES

SAT. MARCH 14

10AM-2PM

SAVE THE DATE

\$25

PER SPOT



FREE

ADMISSION

BECOME A VENDOR OR ASK QUESTIONS

All proceeds will be going towards Fans , Awards and

Any Upgrades the horse department may need

(231) 245-4826

MONTCALMCOUNTYJUNOIRS@GMAIL.COM

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