



4-H Family News

Oakland County



4-H Awards Ceremony



The annual **4-H Achievement Awards** was an unforgettable celebration of the passion, hard work, and heart our members and volunteers pour into 4-H! Since 1979, this beloved tradition has honored those who inspire growth, leadership, and community impact — and this year was no exception.

On **November 15, 2025**, more than **100 guests** filled the room with excitement as we recognized incredible achievements and celebrated another year of youth success. The energy, smiles, and pride made it a night to remember!

A huge **thank-you to the Oakland County Farm Bureau** for generously sponsoring this amazing event!

[View photos here!](#)

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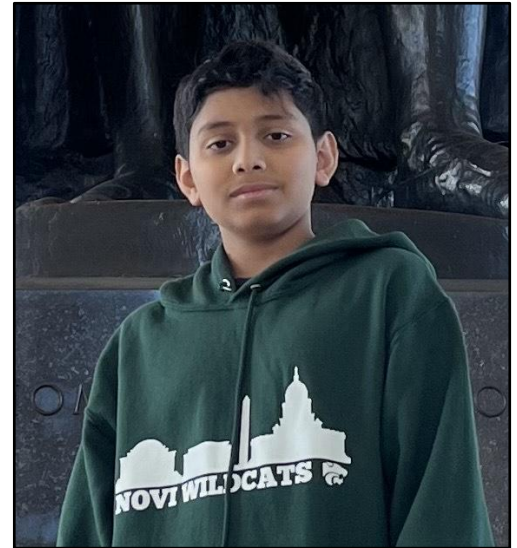
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Congratulations to Varun S.!

Huge congratulations to Varun S. for being selected to serve on the Michigan 4-H State Youth Leadership Council!

State Youth Leadership Council members serve as representatives of the Michigan 4-H program, promoting 4-H through state and local activities, and can provide youth voice and perspective on the development of 4-H programs and curricula. He will be serving for two years.

SYLC members receive training in public speaking, advocacy, communication and leadership skills. SYLC is Michigan's highest youth leadership opportunity and is a goal that older youth can aspire toward. SYLC members get to broaden their network and expand their knowledge of 4-H programs beyond their counties. [More information about SYLC here.](#)



Run Elf Run!



Get ready to run the parade route — elf shoes, cocoa mugs, and holiday spirit required!

If your 4-H club would like to **host a table or participate** in this year's [Holiday Extravaganza](#), please contact Cheyenne Shields at, shield69@msu.edu.

Saturday, December 6, 2025 @ 8 a.m.
 Pontiac, MI

Holiday at the Farm



Join us for our third annual Holiday at the Farm — a festive fundraiser filled with seasonal joy for all ages!

- Wagon rides through scenic farmland
- Meet and greet with friendly farm animals
- Holiday photo ops on beautifully decorated grounds
- Kid-friendly activities and crafts
- Holiday shopping at our Makers Market
- A special visit from Santa Claus

[Buy your ticket here now!](#)



2026 Spark and Share Summit

Reignite your passion for 4-H at the 2026 Spark and Share Summit March 7th at the Bavarian Inn Lodge and Conference Center in Frankenmuth!!

4-H Volunteers and teens can register for this 1-day conference where they can learn new projects and information that they can take back to teach and share in their local 4-H program at:

<https://events.anr.msu.edu/SparkShare2026/>.

Registration is \$75 and includes lunch and selection of up to 4 breakout sessions. A link to session descriptions is available through the registration page. The deadline for registration is February 9th.

Scholarships to attend may be available in some counties. Please contact your local 4-H office for information.



Discovery Day – Save the Date

Join us for fun games, live animal presentations, and hands-on activities for all ages! Learn about joining 4-H and exhibiting at the Oakland County Fair. Concessions available.

 **April 25, 2026**

 **10 AM – 2 PM**

 **Springfield Oaks County Park**

12451 Andersonville Rd, Davisburg, MI 48350

Don't miss one of our most popular events of the year! 🥳 🌻

Blow Out Sale – Youth Business Guide to Success



 Your go-to 4-H curriculum for teaching real-world skills!

Help youth make smart decisions, set goals, budget, market, and keep records for their 4-H animal projects.

Turn every project into a business learning experience!

- ✓ Perfect for volunteers, leaders, and educators
- ✓ Engaging activities + practical tools
- ✓ Limited-time discount – Don't miss out!

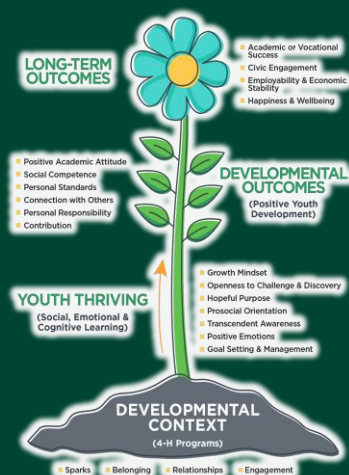
 Learn more, shop now and save BIG!

https://www.canr.msu.edu/youth_business_guide_to_success/



STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

4-H Thriving Model of Positive Youth Development



Have you ever been to a club meeting that starts with a roll call question? Building a sense of belonging in the 4-H community is one of four core concepts of the 4-H Thriving Model that any 4-H program can intentionally do.

We strive to build this welcoming feeling and offer kindness to help develop a sense of belonging throughout project meetings, club meetings, workshops and events offered. What better way to build a community than to find similarities among the membership?

Some of the questions are simple, some are silly, and some can get more involved depending on the purpose of the meeting. Regardless, it's a great way to get to know everyone. Contact your local 4-H staff for more information.

November 28 – December 14: Fall TSC Paper Clover Campaign

Local Tractor Supply Co.

Support 4-H by purchasing a \$1 paper clover at your local Tractor Supply Co. (TSC) store! Seventy-percent of funds raised stay in the local community where the paper clover was purchased.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/tractor-supply-co-paper-clover-campaign

December 2: Giving Tuesday

Online

Join the #GivingTuesday movement — a global day of giving and a chance to celebrate the opportunities that makes 4-H so extraordinary. 4-H'ers are leading the way in a world full of change and together, we can build a generation ready for anything. We have set a goal to raise \$5,000 to grow 4-H county endowments in a 24-hour period.

mi4hfdtn.org/giving-tuesday/

December 9: 4-H Wild Spartans

Online

Join 4-H staff to take a look into life working with fisheries and wildlife! This month's session is "Adventures in Wildlife Medicine: From the Field to the Clinic." Meet Avery Tilley, a veterinary student at the University of Georgia. Learn about his work, and the education and career path he followed to get there. Open to youth ages 12-19.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-wild-spartans-december

December 13: 4-H Holidays Around the World Workshop – Hanukkah

Jefferson-Barns Community Vitality Center, Westland

Learn, create and celebrate the Festival of Lights! Open to all youth in grades 3–8, this hands-on workshop includes storytelling, candle-making, snacks, games and festive music. Pre-register by December 8.!

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

December 20: 4-H Holidays Around the World Workshop – Christmas in Norway

Jefferson-Barns Community Vitality Center, Westland

Celebrate Norwegian Christmas traditions! Open to youth in grades 3–8, this hands-on workshop includes gnome-making, butter-churning and festive cookie decorating. Pre-register by December 15.

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





STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

Mandatory reporting guidelines for Michigan 4-H volunteers

MSU Extension has updated its mandatory [reporting guidelines](http://www.canr.msu.edu/od/civil_rights_diversity_multiculturalism/civil_rights_compliance) (www.canr.msu.edu/od/civil_rights_diversity_multiculturalism/civil_rights_compliance) to align with MSU's policy (UW-02-01). All volunteers are required to report incidents of child abuse, neglect, or misconduct promptly. Reports should be made to MSU's Office for Civil Rights (MSU OCR) and, when applicable, to Children's Protective Services (CPS)/Department of Health and Human Services. In short, volunteers should:

1. In emergencies: Call 911 immediately.
2. Child abuse/neglect: Call CPS at 855-444-3911 and file [DHS-3200](http://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/adult-child-serv/abuse-neglect/childrens/mandated-reporters) (available at www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/adult-child-serv/abuse-neglect/childrens/mandated-reporters) within 72 hours.
3. All other incidents: Report to MSU OCR via online form at <https://msu.guardianconduct.com/incident-reporting/>; phone at (517) 353-3922 between the hours of 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and 1:00-5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday; by mail at 408 W. Circle Dr., Suite 105, Olds Hall, East Lansing, MI 48824; or by email at ocr.isr@msu.edu.
4. Please notify your local MSU Extension staff after submitting a report.

Shop with purpose: 4-H gifts that give back

'Tis the season to spread joy and support 4-H youth while doing it! Consider the following options in your holiday shopping to make the holidays merry, bright and meaningful!



Michigan Shop 4-H Store: 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, the Michigan 4-H store offers Michigan 4-H branded apparel and other gifts for your favorite 4-H'er, volunteer, alumni, professional or fan! A percentage of all proceeds will be donated to Michigan 4-H. Visit <https://bit.ly/30pdNJw>.

My Pottery Place: Get crafty with 4-H pottery! From mugs to ornaments, you can paint your own masterpiece while supporting youth programs—5% of every 4-H licensed pottery purchase goes to 4-H. Learn more at mypotteryplace.com/product-category/all-products/4-h/.

Mickman Brothers: Decorate your home with beautiful greenery and purpose: 15% of the proceeds from each wreath or evergreen purchased at 4hwreaths.com will benefit 4-H.

Twisted X: Step into the season with style! The Twisted X 4-H Collection has shoes for the whole family and 6% of each pair sold supports 4-H! Learn more at twistedx.com/pages/4h-collection.

Georgia Boot: Built for hard work and big dreams, Georgia Boot is a proud supporter of 4-H. Consider giving their boots, which are ready for any adventure, especially a 4-H project! Shop at georgiaboot.com.

Michigan 4-H Dog Showmanship Manual updated

The Michigan 4-H Dog Showmanship Manual has been updated! A major update to the previous version, this guide provides the basic information needed to compete successfully in 4-H dog showmanship classes. Be sure to check out the resources section of the manual for additional useful books, websites and videos.

View the updated manual at www.canr.msu.edu/resources/michigan-4-h-dog-showmanship-manual.