



4-H Family News

Oakland County



Discover 4-H!

FAMILY FUN FRIDAY!

DISCOVER 4-H

Friday, July 26th
12PM - 4PM

Catalpa Oaks County Park
27705 Greenfield Rd, Southfield, MI 48076

A **FREE FUN FAMILY EVENT** open to the public with fun and educational activities for the whole family! Join us for games and a variety of interactive, hands-on activities - brought to you by MSU Extension, 4-H and local organizations! Learn more about 4-H and all the opportunities available to youth and families.

Contact: **Cheyenne Shields**- shield69@msu.edu, 248-858-0435

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Contact: Cheyenne Shields, shield69@msu.edu

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Canr.msu.edu/oakland/4-h/

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Walt Whitman Elementary School's 4-H Garden Club Visits Bowers School Farm!

The 4-H Garden Club at Walt Whitman Elementary School in Pontiac took a field trip to learn about growing food and taking care of farm animals. Students have been working hard in their school garden the past few months to prepare their garden space for planting. Last week, they transplanted plants such as tomatoes, basil, peas, onions, and flowers -- just to name a few! Some of the plants they started from seed and grew in their greenhouse, and many other plants were provided by Growing Pontiac -- the local garden organization that was recently awarded "Friend of 4-H" for their generous donations of seeds, soil, and plants.

While visiting Bowers School Farm, students were able to see the gardening practices they have been practicing and learning about all Spring at their school-- but on a much larger scale on the Farm! The learning connections that were made from their hands-on experience in their own school garden to seeing the same practices used on a larger scale were invaluable. From seeds in the greenhouse, to amending the soil, to transplanting plants and caring for the plants so they can thrive and produce our food -- Walt Whitman Elementary School's 4-H Garden Club learned invaluable lessons and had a blast while doing it! They also got to meet the farm animals and learn about the different species of farm animals that can also contribute to our food system.

Special thank you to Toye Crawford, Walt Whitman's 4-H Garden Club Leader, for finding transportation, and taking care of all of the logistics to get the students to the farm! And, to Farmer Tracy, from Bowers School Farm for providing a fun and educational experience for all!





What is the Oakland County 4-H Sport Rocket Club Up To?

The Oakland County Sport Rocket Club had a successful “Lunch and Launch” on May 26 at Seymour Lake Township Park in Oxford MI. Below are some more activities they have planned for the summer.

Saturday, June 1 - regular club meeting (build day) at the Clarkston Independence District Library.

Saturday, June 1 is also the deadline to enter rockets in the Oakland County Fair. Full details are here. Fast forward to page 107 / Dept. 50 for the rocket competitions: <https://www.oakfair.org/p/getinvolved/fair-exhibitor>

The Fair is July 5-14. There is a rocket launch at the fair on July 11 as part of the model rocket competitions. <https://www.oakfair.org/p/tickets--deals>

Are you interested in a club field trip? The Oakland Co. Airport open house and airshow are coming up on August 11, 9AM-4PM with the airshow portion from 1:30 - 3:30. We could make a club trip to the open house in place of our August monthly meeting. The show is free to attend and is at the Oakland Co. Airport (PTK) in Waterford.

<https://www.oakgov.com/community/airports/open-house-air-show>

Contact club leaders below to get involved:

Ken Meek kenscale@gmail.com

Jordan Schwarz jbschwarz@gmail.com



Michigan State Fair Youth Council Kick-Off Meeting

The youth council is a youth led 4-H Group with a mission to increase their knowledge of rural and urban agriculture, improve leadership skills, and share their experiences and knowledge with others.

This group meets monthly and is for any youth between the ages 13-19

Benefits:

- Credit towards MSF Scholarship Applications
- Resume builder
- Networking opportunities
- Free fair admission

Please apply [here](#) if interested.

Kick off meeting on June 9, 2024 at 12 PM

Suburban Showplace Collection
46100 Grand River Ave
Novi MI 48374

Sign up here: <https://suburbancollectionshowplace.wufoo.com/forms/x1n0g104075e6pt/>





Congratulations Mark of Excellence Winners!

Every year, counties across Michigan offer 4-H youth ages 11 and 12 the opportunity to participate in Michigan 4-H State Awards Program 4-H Mark of Excellence essay contest. The essay theme is “Because of 4-H, I can...” and the youth referred to their 4-H experiences as ones that have allowed them to make new friends, try new projects, explore new places and help their dreams come true. Congratulations to both **Brooklyn H. and Lorelai K.!**

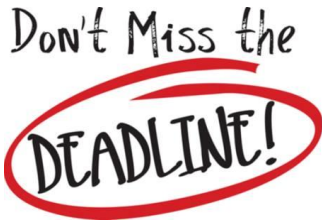


Brooklyn H.



Lorelai K.

Oakland County Fair Reminders



June 1, 2024 - Date entries must be submitted to avoid late fees. Last day to get lowest price on parking passes!

June 2-8, 2024 - Online entries and entries process in the fair Office will be accepted with a \$40.00 late fee due at the time of registration.

June 8, 2024 - Last date fair entries can be submitted and accepted. No entries will be accepted after June 8, 2024. No exceptions will be made.

FREE Food Safety & Preservation Programs

FREEZER JAM & JELLY
WEDNESDAY, 6/5, 5:00-7 PM

Learn a new cool jam or a jiggly jelly. Either way, freezer jam will melt your heart with delicious flavor. Find out how you can play with flavors during a demonstration for freezer jam and jelly.

CANNING TOMATOES
WEDNESDAY, 9/18, 5:00-7 PM

Have you ever met a tomato you didn't like? Learn how the original love apple can be preserved using a water bath canner.

Location: Oakland County Fair Community Room
12451 Andersonville Rd., Davisburg, MI 48350

RSVP REQUIRED. Please contact Deb Morgan at morga194@msu.edu or 248-347-3860, ext. 279.

Open Your Home & Heart to the World!

Interested in adding another member to your family for 3.5 weeks this summer? Summers are beautiful in Michigan and can be culturally enriching sharing it with a Japanese youth! Reach out to our State Coordinator today Janis Brinn brinn@msu.edu if your family is interested! We only have a few international youth participants left and the deadline is this Saturday June 1, 2024! Applications to host can be found at www.states4hexchange.org



STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Register now for the Michigan 4-H State Dog Show!



The 2024 Michigan 4-H State Dog Show is now open for registration! This year's show will take place on August 10, at the Michigan State University Pavilion.

The show is open to enrolled Cloverbuds, and any Michigan 4-H'er age 8-19.

To register, visit: <https://events.canr.msu.edu/2024StateDogShow/>.

Questions? Please reach out to Kat at Krollkat@msu.edu.

June 17: 4-H Beginner's Sewing Camp

Grand Rapids

4-H Sewing Camp for beginners. American Sewing Guild Sewing Camp for school aged youth 11-15 years of age.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-beginner-s-sewing-camp

June 22: Missaukee County Sheep Clinic

Missaukee Agricultural Youth Show, Falmouth

Learn from Jenna Pohl Davis, an experienced sheep showman at the state and national level. Jenna will break down show day preparations, teaching advanced showmanship with tips and tricks. and giving a customized feed and nutrition plan for your lamb.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/sheep-clinic

June 25: Kayaking Days

Paddles & Pedals, Bellaire

Youth participants learn water safety, paddle techniques, navigation, and receive an introduction to stewardship of inland waterways. This free event is open to youth in Antrim, Otsego, Grand Traverse, Leelanau and Charlevoix counties.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/2024-kayaking-days-presented-by-antrim-county-4-h

June 27: Digger Day

Michigan 4-H Children's Garden, East Lansing

Come to the garden and explore the world of diggers. Front-end loaders, dump trucks and back hoes – all of these tools help with projects both big and small in our communities.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/digger-day

June 27: Explore the Farm Through the Seasons Workshop Series: June Event

Schomaker Farms, Saginaw

Schomaker Farms and Saginaw 4-H are teaming up to offer a 12-month farm education learning series. Each month will offer a different learning topic and hands-on activity.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/explore-the-farm-through-the-seasons-workshop-seriesjune

June 29: 4-H Dairy Quiz Bowl

MSU Anthony Hall, East Lansing

The 4-H Dairy Quiz Bowl allows youth to put their dairy knowledge to the test! Please note the new date for 2024.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-dairy-quiz-bowl





STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

Michigan 4-H and FFA State Livestock Judging Contest moves to a new date!

The Michigan 4-H and FFA State Livestock Judging Contest is returning this year at a new date! Participants can demonstrate their livestock evaluation and selection skills, as well as improve their communication and decision-making skills at this fun statewide contest. The day will include both individual and team competition with classes of beef cattle, Boer goats, sheep and swine.

Contest divisions include:

- 4-H Juniors - Ages 8-13 as of January 1
- 4-H Seniors - Ages 14-19 as of January 1
- FFA Junior High - Youth that recently completed seventh or eighth grade
- FFA High School – Youth that recently completed grades 9-12
- MLE - Ages 8-21 as of January 1 and not a member of 4-H or FFA
- Cloverbuds - Age 7 as of January 1, non-competitive



Please note that the date of this contest is no longer in conjunction with Michigan Livestock Expo (MLE), however participation in the contest will still count as an educational experience for the Premier Stockman Award. Registration is due by June 10. Find registration information at www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-and-ffa-state-livestock-judging-contest-2024. Contestants and coaches are responsible for reading and adhering to the rules.

2024 Michigan 4-H Mark of Excellence Award winners

Every year, counties across Michigan offer 4-H youth, ages 11 and 12, the opportunity to participate in Michigan 4-H State Awards' 4-H Mark of Excellence essay contest. The essay theme is "Because of 4-H, I can..." and the youth referred to a variety of memorable experiences in their time as 4-H'ers.

As part of the contest, up to two 4-H youth essays from each county are selected to be recognized as award winners. In 2024, the following 14 4-H members from 12 counties were selected as the 2024 Mark of Excellence county winners.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| • Heidi Barrington, St. Joseph County | • Alice Long, Washtenaw County |
| • Jordan Davis, Berrien County | • Sophia Mason, Monroe County |
| • Lauren Eichhorn, Menominee County | • Ethan McLaughlin, Monroe County |
| • Brooklyn Hetrick, Oakland County | • Natalie Milford Chippewa County |
| • Ainsley Karvinen, Alger County | • Emma Rasch, Kent County |
| • Lorelai Kowalski, Oakland County | • Kylie Smith, Ionia County |
| • Molly Lake, Gratiot County | • Sydney Specht, Saginaw County |

Each recipient will receive a medal, and their winning essays will be added to the Mark of Excellence history book at the Michigan 4-H Foundation and State 4-H Office at MSU Extension. Congratulations to our winners!

To learn more about the Michigan 4-H State Awards, visit www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_scholarships_and_recognition_program/4-h-awards-and-recognition-program/Youth-Recognition/index.