



NOVEMBER 2023

# 4-H Family News

Wayne County



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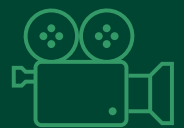
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# COUNTY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

4-H Future Squad ..... 11/6 & 11/20  
Adulting 101: Workplace Professionalism ..... 11/8  
Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series ..... 11/21  
Mindful Art Creation at the Detroit Institute of Arts ..... 11/29  
4-H Creative Campaign Contest ..... See entry  
A Balancing Act: Balancing School, Work, Social Life and Health ..... See entry





# WAYNE COUNTY 4-H EVENTS

## 4-H Future Squad

### CLICK INTO YOUR FUTURE With 4-H Future Squad



Your future is bright! Explore your interests, make new connections, and build skills for your future with 4-H Future Squad! Youth 12-19 are invited to join this virtual club, meeting twice monthly, to dive into their futures! Visit: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/4-h-future-squad/> for more information!



4-H Future Squad was inspired by Generation Z youth seeking life skill development for a better future for themselves and their peers. This program is designed to help youth (age 12-19) feel prepared and ready to take on the future and adulthood.

Any 12–19-year-old youth throughout Michigan are welcome to join this virtual club that will help young people connect with others from across the state and learn “adulting” life skills for the future. From organization to money management, youth are bound to learn helpful tips and information that will serve them throughout their adult lives. This month, learn about global & cultural awareness, and how to manage credit!

Date and time: November 6 & 20, 7:00 – 8:00 PM

For more information, visit <https://www.canr.msu.edu/4-h-future-squad/>

## Adulting 101: Workplace Professionalism

Michigan State University Extension's Adulting 101 programs help teenagers and young adults demystify the obscure reality of being an “adult” through engaging educational sessions. Each FREE session is packed full of important life skills and tools necessary to live independently.

What is professionalism and why is it important in the workplace? Increase your awareness of what it means to be professional and gain tips on different aspects of the work environment to consider including: shared workspace, relationships with coworkers, communicating and setting boundaries.

Date and time: November 8, 6:00 PM

For more information, visit <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulting101f23>



## Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series: Youth Engagement in 4-H Experiences

A webinar series that will provide Michigan 4-H volunteers with a variety of learning opportunities to help them grow as a volunteer and support the Michigan 4-Her's.

This session, Youth Engagement in 4-H Experience, will teach 4-H volunteers multiple strategies to increase the level of youth engagement in their 4-H experiences.

Date and time: November 21, 12:00 – 1:00 PM & 7:00 – 8:00 PM



# WAYNE COUNTY 4-H EVENTS

## Mindful Art Creation at the Detroit Institute of Arts

Join Michigan State University Extension 4-H as we celebrate positive mental health and mindfulness with our very own Michigan 4-H Day of Wellness! We will discuss the importance of mental health and mindfulness while participating in wellness activities.

Art can be a powerful tool in mindfulness- join 4-H at the Detroit Institute of Arts to learn more about the connection between our mental wellbeing and creativity! If you are a youth in Wayne, Oakland, or Macomb, come practice your creative skills by making your very own artworks, and get inspired by the wonderful works from artists around the world. Space is limited, register today! (Participants MUST register to participate.)

For more information and registration, visit <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/mindful-creation-at-the-dia>

Date and time: November 29, 2:00 – 4:00 PM

Location: 5200 Woodward Ave, Detroit, MI 48202



## 4-H Creative Campaign Contest



Looking to exercise your creative chops while encouraging your peers to join in on the 4-H fun? 4-H members can be our best advertisers by helping spread the word in a short video highlighting “Why You Should Join 4-H!” Be a 4-H changemaker by using your voice and sharing your story of 4-H.

Create a video lasting 1 minute or less about “Why You Should Join 4-H!” A total of six prizes will be awarded to the top videos judged by professionals. 1st place prize is a \$100 Amazon gift card, 2nd place prize is a \$75 Amazon gift card, and 3rd place prize is a \$50 Amazon gift card.

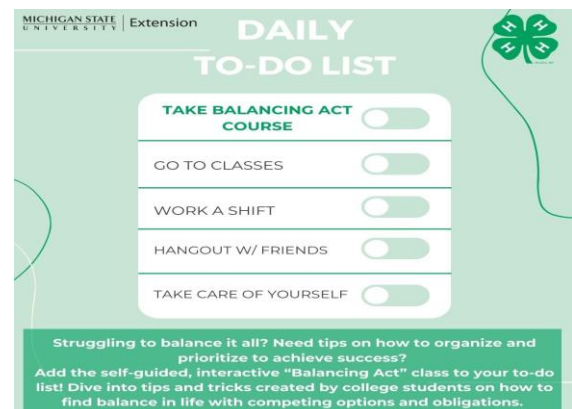
To learn more information, visit <https://www.canr.msu.edu/4-h-clovers-code/contest/>

Submissions due January 1, 2024.

## A Balancing Act: Balancing School, Work, Social Life and Health

This free, self-guided interactive class will share tips from current/recent college students and MSU Extension student workers on how to find balance in life with competing options and obligations. Learn about ways to stay organized and manage your time, the importance of building a supportive social network, options for working as a student, avoiding burnout and getting academic support and enrichment to round out your education. With lots of time to reflect and apply to your life, you will leave with resources and tips to find balance in your Wheel of Life!

For more information and to access the course, visit <https://www.canr.msu.edu/courses/balancingact>





# 4-H Volunteer Spotlight

## Meet Lolita Fox!

Lolita Fox is no newbie! Having served as a volunteer with Wayne County 4-H for six years, Lolita has certainly made her mark on the youth and community of Wayne County. Lolita provides our 4-H family with a tremendous amount of support, primarily at the Detroit Partnership for Food, Learning, and Innovation (DPFLI), MSU Extension Wayne County's Detroit community garden. Hear more from Lolita on her experiences in 4-H!



### Where do you volunteer, and how did you get started?

I volunteer at Detroit Partnership for Food, Learning, and Innovation (DPFLI), I began my journey with 4-H in 2017 as a volunteer at a small community garden in Detroit.

### What has been your favorite or most fulfilling part of volunteering with 4-H?

The most fulfilling aspect of volunteering with 4-H has been watching the children explore and experience new ways of interacting with the environment.

### What volunteer projects would you most like to be a part of?

I'm looking forward to exploring new projects that involve various STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics) topics.

### Do you have any advice for other 4-H Volunteers?

Enjoy your time with the youth and listen, you may learn something new and interesting.



Fruit tree planting at DPFLI.  
Credit: Naim Edwards

Aerial shot of DPFLI.

Credit: Edgar Cardenas





# 4-H'er Spotlight

## Meet Isabella!

Isabella is an accomplished member of our 4-H family! Over her five-years as a 4-H'er, she has grown into an award-winning animal caretaker and phenomenal leader. From the farm to the state-wide stage, Isabella truly captures what it means to be a 4-H'er. Read about her experiences here!



Hello, my name is Isabella. I am part of Pingree Farms 4-H Club and Super Stock 4-H Club. I am 16 years old and show cattle, lambs, and rabbits.

### What are your 4-H achievements?

My 4-H achievements include winning reserve grand champion for beef cattle, winning first place in breed and showmanship in sheep, and winning first place and fifth in rabbits all in one year (2022). Recently, I was inducted onto the State Youth Leadership Council (SYLC). I was also the Assistant Barn Manager at Pingree Farms.

I have only been on SYLC for about a month now, but I have learned so much and met so many new people. I have been able to connect with 4-H'ers all over Michigan, and we have learned about each other's experiences. I have been able to travel around Belleville, and talk about my experiences in 4-H, and get other people to join. For instance, on October 14th, 2023, I hosted a booth at the Belleville Fall Festival with Holly Sysol and Megan Richendollar.

### How and when did you get involved with 4-H?

I was 11 years old when I first got introduced to 4-H. I went to a community planting day in Detroit, hosted by Pingree Farms. I would like to thank my uncle, Patrick Maloney, and Jim Green because they helped open the doors to my 4-H journey.

### What drew you to the 4-H program?

The opportunity of learning about animals and learning how to take care of them and connect with new people through Michigan.

### What is your favorite 4-H memory?

My favorite memories include watching my friend, Amilea, win Junior Master Stockman, showing my animals next to my best friends, and participating in Exploration Days.

### What are your plans for the future?

I will be opening a non-profit organization in the next couple of months. I am going to continue with 4-H until I age out. When I go to college, I am hoping to attend Michigan State University and earn an undergraduate degree in psychology, and eventually a higher degree in veterinary medicine. I would like to thank my parents for always putting up with my 4-H shenanigans and driving me anywhere I needed to go. Thank you for always supporting me.



# WAYNE COUNTY 4-H ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Wayne County 4-H

We know young people hold the key to creating a better future. Our goal is to expand opportunities for all Wayne County youth!

Donating to Wayne County 4-H increases equity and access to 4-H positive youth development for all our kids! Your donation will allow us to continue offering free and low-cost programs for more youth in Wayne County!



*Make a Gift!*

<https://givingto.msu.edu/crowdpower/wayne-county-4-h>  
or mail: University Advancement, Spartan Way, 535  
Chestnut Rd, Room 300, E. Lansing, MI 48824

Wayne County 4-H is committed to growing current and future leaders in our community.

As part of the largest youth development organization in Michigan, Wayne County 4-H provides youth with experiential learning opportunities to explore new interests and discover their passion.

They gain a sense of belonging, independence, mastery, and generosity as they enhance their skills and confidence.

With your support we can expand access to those opportunities for young people in Wayne County.

## 2023-24 Program Year Enrollment

It is that time of year again, enrollment for the 2023-2024 4-H program year is now open! Please take a few moments to log into your [4Honline family account](#) to re-enroll/enroll your child(ren) for the 2023-2024 program year. For instructions on how to do this please visit [the 4-H Online Support webpage](#) for family guides and tutorials.

## Thank you, Club Leaders!

Kudos to all Wayne County Club leaders for submitting their annual club paperwork on time! Your efforts and timely reporting help us to keep the Wayne County 4-H program running smoothly so we can best serve the youth of our community.

We appreciate all you do and your effort to make your club and the 4-H program a success!

## Call for Spotlight Nominations

Wayne County youth and volunteers make the 4-H program great! If you know a star 4-H'er or volunteer, now you can nominate them to be featured in our monthly newsletter! Nominations may be made by volunteers, parents, or youth. Self-nominations will also be accepted.

From youth that have proven to be great leaders and club members, to volunteers that make an impact on the lives of 4-H'ers everyday, we want to amplify these stories! Click the link below to submit a nomination:

[https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_cvU3kKrJ2CwwFuK](https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cvU3kKrJ2CwwFuK)





# WAYNE COUNTY 4-H ANNOUNCEMENTS

Save the Date: Wayne County 4-H Awards Ceremony



Since its inception, Wayne County 4-H has proven to be made up of passionate, hard-working individuals: from volunteers who help to shape youths' futures, to the 4-H'ers who help lead and shape their communities. MSU Extension Wayne County is continually grateful for and wowed by the 4-H family. It's time to celebrate the accomplishments of Wayne County 4-H and showcase the many achievements and talents held by our volunteers and 4-H'ers! Join us in 2024 for our annual Award and Recognition Ceremony, where we can celebrate the efforts of the Wayne County 4-H community.

More details regarding date and awards applications coming soon.





# WAYNE COUNTY 4-H SUCCESS STORY

## Explore 4-H SPIN Club at DPFLI

Over the course of 4 months, youth from the west side of Detroit and surrounding areas, engaged in an 8-week 4-H SPIN club exploring various topics including, animal science, leadership, mindfulness, gardening, robotics/engineering, and more! The club met twice a month from May to August at the MSU Extension Detroit Partnership for Food Learning and Innovation and was targeting youth ages 8-13. This SPIN club was an MSU Extension 4-H staff-led program, however, a volunteer who was interested in supporting our club meetings came out every week to support the program. In total, 28 youth were involved in the program. Throughout the summer, many of the older youth would volunteer to assist the facilitator throughout the hour. There was a brother duo that was particularly excited to always help lead and grow their leadership skills. They would take turns helping with various tasks they were assigned to and would pair up with some of the younger youth who may need extra assistance with the activities.

The last meeting of the summer was bittersweet for many of the youth- they loved attending and kept asking if there was going to be a celebration or more 4-H meetings in the fall. One session that had to be cancelled due to bad weather was followed up by the eager participants wanting to jump back into programming. Fortunately, the gold-level volunteer who assisted with the SPIN club as decided to continue with the 4-H program and start an officially chartered club hosted at the DPFLI location. This is the most ideal situation any short-term program can lead to. The end goal is always to gain the interest of youth and parents, get them excited for 4-H and wanting more, in hopes a parent or trusted adult steps up to take over the club and continue programming. This could not have been a better way to end this explore 4-H programming. Wayne County 4-H staff is excited to see what happens next and how this 4-H program at DPFLI will grow in the 2023-2024 program year!





# STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## Explore the globe with Crafts Around the World!



Curious about other countries around the globe? Like making crafts? The Michigan 4-H Crafts Around the World series provides lessons and instructions for youth to create simple crafts and increase cultural awareness.

In its latest piece, youth can learn about the European country of Norway while making a Norwegian gnome. In Norway, a gnome is called a nisse: a creature who lives in barns or homes, protecting the countryside and the people who live there.

View this activity at [www.canr.msu.edu/resources/crafts-around-the-world-series-europe-norwegian-gnome-nisse](http://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/crafts-around-the-world-series-europe-norwegian-gnome-nisse).

View all the Crafts Around the World activities at [www.canr.msu.edu/global\\_cultural\\_education/resources](http://www.canr.msu.edu/global_cultural_education/resources).

### November 8: Adulthood 101 - Professionalism in the Workplace

*Online*

Participants will increase their awareness of what it means to be professional and gain tips on different aspects of the work environment to consider, including: shared workspace, relationships with coworkers, communicating and setting boundaries. This free online series is open to teens and young adults (17 and under) and youth development professionals, teachers and adults (18 and up).

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulthood10111-8-23](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulthood10111-8-23)

### November 14: Wild Spartans – Careers in the Exotic Animal Industry

*Online*

Jump into the world of breeding and caring for amphibians and reptiles. Meet Zach Brinks, vice president of live operations at Josh's Frogs. Learn about his work and the education and career path he followed to get there. Youth will be encouraged to ask questions to learn more through a live Q&A. This free online series is open to youth ages 12-19.

[events.anr.msu.edu/wildspartans20232024/](http://events.anr.msu.edu/wildspartans20232024/)

### November 21: Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series - Youth Engagement in 4-H Experiences

*Online*

Explore ways 4-H volunteers can help to increase the level of youth engagement in their 4-H experiences. This series will provide Michigan 4-H volunteers with a variety of learning opportunities to help them grow as a volunteer and support Michigan 4-H'ers. This session will be offered twice, once as a daytime option and once as an evening option for the convenience of volunteers.

**12 p.m. session:** [www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-youth-engagement-in-4-h-experiences](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-youth-engagement-in-4-h-experiences)

**7 p.m. session:** [www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-youth-engagement-in-4-h-experiences7pm](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-youth-engagement-in-4-h-experiences7pm)

### November 28: Giving Tuesday

*Online*

Join the #GivingTuesday movement — a global day of giving — and support 4-H! From 12 a.m. to 11:59 p.m. EST, Michigan 4-H supporters are invited to participate by giving their support financially or helping spread the word. Michigan 4-H has a goal to raise \$5,000 to grow 4-H county endowments in a 24-hour period. County 4-H endowments provide a perpetual source of income for county 4-H programs and every dollar is an investment in 4-H!

<https://mi4hfdtn.org/giving-tuesday/>





# STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

## MSU Extension partners with legislators to host first Michigan 4-H Day at the Capitol

On Wednesday, October 4, Michigan State University Extension hosted the first Michigan Day at the Capitol, in partnership with State Reps. Matthew Bierlein (R-Vassar) and Reggie Miller (D-Van Buren Twp.). The event, held at Heritage Hall, showcased the positive impact of the Michigan 4-H program and brought visibility to its efforts throughout the state.

“Michigan 4-H Day at the Capitol was a great opportunity to educate about and bring awareness to the 4-H program,” said Quentin Tyler, director of MSU Extension. “We truly appreciate Reps. Bierlein and Miller for their collaboration in hosting this event.”

Michigan 4-H is the flagship youth development program of MSU Extension and reaches nearly 100,000 young people ages 5 to 19 each year. Through various activities, clubs, groups, programs and events, 4-H’ers are offered hands-on learning experiences where they can explore their passions and interests while growing confidence, life skills and a sense of responsibility.

“Michigan 4-H is helping to grow youth in every county of our great state but we would like to reach even more young people with the life-changing program,” continued Tyler. “We hope that our event brings us closer to that goal by increasing the visibility of our 4-H program and all that we offer to youth in our state.”

Michigan 4-H Day at the Capitol was attended by legislators, stakeholders and members of the public. At the event, attendees had the opportunity to visit informational booths hosted by Michigan 4-H youth and staff. A brief program was also held, with event hosts Reps. Bierlein and Miller delivering comments to the audience. Also providing comments were Tyler, MSU Interim President Teresa Woodruff, Genesee County Clerk Register of Deeds Domonique Clemons, who is a Michigan 4-H alum, and Lenawee County 4-H’er Lia Kurowicki.

The program was livestreamed on the Michigan 4-H Facebook and can be viewed at [www.facebook.com/Michigan4H](http://www.facebook.com/Michigan4H). To learn more about Michigan 4-H, visit [www.canr.msu.edu/4h](http://www.canr.msu.edu/4h).

## Michigan 4-H license plate proposed

On Tuesday, September 26, legislation was unveiled that if passed, will create a new fundraising license plate that would generate support for Michigan 4-H. State Reps. Matthew Bierlein, of Vassar, and Reggie Miller, of Van Buren Township, sponsored the legislation which would allow for the creation and sale of a Michigan 4-H plate through the Secretary of State.

The plans would create the 4-H fundraising plate and establish regular disbursements from the license plate sales to the Michigan 4-H Foundation. Led by a board of trustees, the foundation works in partnership with MSU Extension and Michigan 4-H Youth Development to support programs to prepare youth for meaningful and productive lives.

The bills were referred to the Michigan House Committee on Transportation, Mobility and Infrastructure. On October 11, Michigan 4-H Foundation Director Abbey Miller and MSU Extension Associate Director Dr. Deanna East testified before the committee in support of the 4-H fundraising license plate legislation.



Reps. Miller (left) and Bierlein (right) with MSU Interim President Woodruff (center).