



OCTOBER 2023

# 4-H Family News

Wayne County



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# WAYNE COUNTY 4-H EVENTS

## Michigan 4-H Youth Textile and Sewing Group at Taylor Community Library

What goes into making the clothes you wear everyday? What steps should you take to create your own pieces? If you want to know the answer to those questions, join 4-H at Taylor Community Library for Clothing & Textiles! Learn more about the ins and outs of garment making, including cutting patterns, operating a sewing machine, and more!

For more information, contact Kathy Henderson at [hende578@msu.edu](mailto:hende578@msu.edu).

Location: Taylor Community Library, 12303 Pardee Rd, Taylor, MI 48180

Date and time: Thursdays (no meeting October 19), 5:30 – 7:30 PM

## Michigan 4-H Day of Wellness

Join Michigan State University Extension 4-H as we celebrate World Mental Health Day with our very own Michigan 4-H Day of Wellness! This October 10, we will discuss the importance of mental health and mindfulness while participating in wellness activities. Join us at both the Detroit Institute of Arts for fun art activities and a special tour, as well at the MSU Detroit Center to learn more about and participate in performing arts!

For more information, contact Waverly Eubank at [eubankwa@msu.edu](mailto:eubankwa@msu.edu) or Kathy Henderson at [hende578@msu.edu](mailto:hende578@msu.edu).

Location: Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward Ave, Detroit, MI 48202 and MSU Detroit Center, 3408 Woodward Ave, Detroit, MI 48201

Date and time: October 10, 2:00 – 4:00 PM (DIA location) and 4:00 – 7:00 PM (MSU Detroit Center Location)



## 4-H Future Squad



Future Squad returns in October for its third year! 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 can be your primary club or a secondary club. Register for 2023-2024 NOW!

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

Date and time: October 12 & 26, 6:30 – 7:30 PM



# WAYNE COUNTY 4-H EVENTS

## Adulting 101: Wealth Building



Are you ready to leave for college or be out on your own? Are you prepared to do adult tasks and have skills to be successful? 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.

Looking for strategies to build wealth? This workshop will provide tips, tools & goal setting strategies. Learn about different types of savings and investment products. Evaluate your risk tolerance and explore investment timelines.

For more information and registration, visit <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulting10110-18-23>.

## Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series- Helping Youth Find Their Spark

Are you a volunteer looking for information on how effectively assist your clubs? Join this webinar series that provides Michigan 4-H volunteers with a variety of learning opportunities to help them grow as a volunteer and support the Michigan 4-Her's.

In this October webinar, come explore a variety of ways to help the youth you work with make their 4-H experience even better!

For more information and registration, visit <https://www.canr.msu.edu/volunteering/mi-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series>

Date and time: October 23, 12:00 – 1:00 PM & 7:00 – 8:00 PM

## Wayne County Haunted Garden

Calling all spooky season lovers! If you're looking for an October activity that the whole family can enjoy, join Wayne County 4-H at the Detroit Partnership for Food, Learning, and Innovation for a night of fun and (not-so-scary) frights!

For more information, contact Kathy Henderson at [hende578@msu.edu](mailto:hende578@msu.edu).

Location: Detroit Partnership for Food, Learning, and Innovation, 16745 Lamphere, Detroit, MI 48219

Date and time: October 25, 6:00 – 9:00 PM



# WAYNE COUNTY 4-H EVENTS

## 4-H Member and Family Virtual Fall Welcome Event



Are you interested in learning more about 4-H and getting involved with the community? Do you know a youth looking for fun activities, or are you looking to volunteer and help youth have great experiences? Join Wayne County 4-H for the 4-H Member and Family Virtual Welcome Event! Learn more about what 4-H can offer you and connect with Program Coordinators and other 4-H members.

For more information, contact Ashleigh Apel at [apelash@msu.edu](mailto:apelash@msu.edu) or LaToya Jones at [cainjone@msu.edu](mailto:cainjone@msu.edu).

Date and time: October 26, 7:00 PM

## 2023 Michigan 4-H Spectacular Youth Leadership Institute

The Michigan 4-H Spectacular Youth Leadership Institute is an event for teens who want to improve their communities and our world through leadership and youth power! Attending the Institute will help teens gain leadership skills and approach life with their head, heart, and hands open to new ideas, interesting people, and diverse cultures. Attend the Institute and be part of the movement that has youth leading the way!

The Institute features a wide variety of fun and interactive sessions that will provide teens with knowledge and tools to improve their leadership skills and make a positive difference in their communities and the world. This Michigan 4-H workshop is open to ALL teens (ages 13+ by Jan. 1, 2024) and to adult leaders who have Gold Level Volunteer status with MSU Extension.

For more information and registration, visit <https://events.anr.msu.edu/SYLI2023/>

For questions, contact MSU Extension Educators Roxanne Turner at [turnerr@msu.edu](mailto:turnerr@msu.edu) or 517-546-3950; or Brian Wibby [wibby@msu.edu](mailto:wibby@msu.edu) or 906-439-5065.

Location: Michigan State University

Registration deadline: October 20

Date: November 10 – 12





# STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

## Promote 4-H with the 4-H Creative Campaign Contest

Youth ages 9-19 are invited to create short videos (under 60 seconds) promoting 4-H to their peers. Videos should address the question, “**Why You Should Join 4-H!**” Be a 4-H spokesperson by using your voice and sharing your 4-H story with others!

This contest is open to Michigan 4-H youth. Those not currently registered for 4-H can do so prior to entering this contest. The deadline for registration and video submissions is January 31, 2024.

A total of six prizes will be awarded to the top videos judged by professionals. There will be two age brackets for this competition:

- 4-H ages 9-13 (as of January 1, 2024)
- 4-H ages 14-19 (as of January 1, 2024)

Each age bracket will have three winners, who will receive the following prizes:

- First place prize: \$100 Amazon gift card
- Second place prize: \$75 Amazon gift card
- Third place prize: \$50 Amazon gift card

The 4-H Creative Campaign Contest is sponsored with a grant from the Michigan 4-H Foundation. More information and contest rules can be found online at <https://www.canr.msu.edu/4-h-clovers-code/contest/>. For questions, please contact Kathy Jamieson at [jamies13@msu.edu](mailto:jamies13@msu.edu).



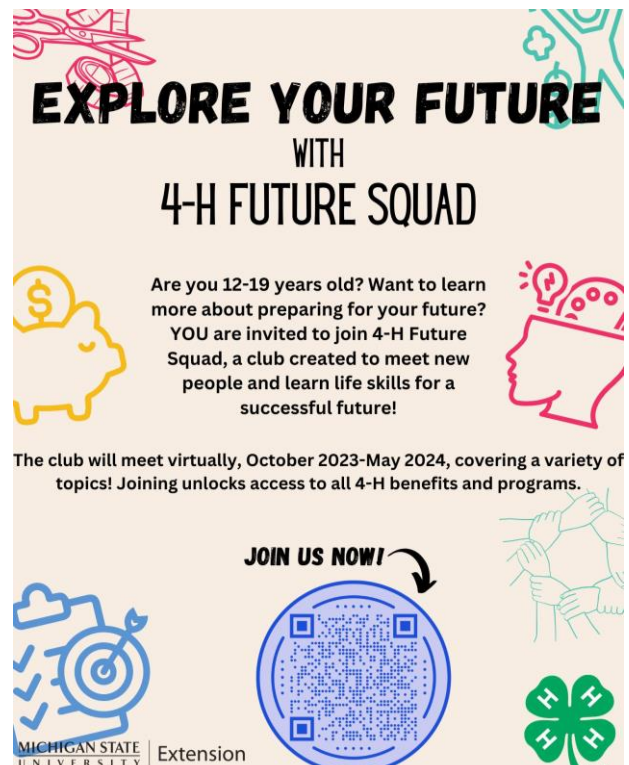
## Join the 4-H Future Squad!

Figuring all this "adulting" out can be hard! If you are a 12-19 year old youth throughout Michigan, join 4-H Future Squad in learning more about important life skills for YOUR future.

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 feel prepared and ready to take on the future and adulthood.

The FREE club will meet October 2023 through May 2024. Meetings will involve team-building and will cover areas such as money management, career readiness, stress management, goal-setting, time management, communication, politics, food safety, and basic household tasks. Club meetings will be virtual through Zoom. Club meetings for the 2023-2024 year will take place twice monthly with Monday or Thursday meeting dates on alternating months.

This club can be your primary or secondary club. For more information and to get registered, visit: [www.canr.msu.edu/4-h-future-squad/](http://www.canr.msu.edu/4-h-future-squad/).





# STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## 4-H scholarships available!



Outstanding Michigan 4-H members who are involved at county, regional, state, national or international levels are eligible to apply for Michigan 4-H scholarships to help fund their college experience.

A number of scholarship opportunities exist, ranging in value from \$500 to \$10,000 (over the course of four years). Each scholarship has specific eligibility, be sure to read the requirements to see if you qualify.

**All applications are due by November 1.**

Learn more and access applications materials at: [www.canr.msu.edu/4\\_h\\_scholarships\\_and\\_recognition\\_program/4\\_h\\_scholarships](http://www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_scholarships_and_recognition_program/4_h_scholarships).

### October 1-7: National 4-H Week

For over 100 years, 4-H has inspired families, shaped careers, and impacted communities. During this week, celebrate the impact of 4-H during National 4-H Week.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/national-4-h-week](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/national-4-h-week)

### October 4-15: Fall Tractor Supply Company Paper Clover Campaign

Support 4-H by purchasing a \$1 paper clover at your local Tractor Supply Co. (TSC) store or online!

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/tractor-supply-co-paper-clover-campaign](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/tractor-supply-co-paper-clover-campaign)

### October 7: 4-H Day at the Wild Pumpkin

4-H families and friends will receive a discount of \$2 off admission, a fun fall prize, a free donut and cup of cider! Sign up required.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-day-at-the-wild-pumpkin](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-day-at-the-wild-pumpkin)

### October 10: Wild Spartans - Snakes and Frogs: Fieldwork in the Tropics

*Online*

Participants will meet Dr. D. Bruce Means, adjunct professor at Florida State University and biologist with the Coastal Plains Institute and Land Conservancy. Learn about his field work, and the education and career path he followed to get there.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/wild-spartans-series-2023-2024](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/wild-spartans-series-2023-2024)

### October 18: Adulting 101 - Wealth Building

*Online*

This workshop will provide tips, tools and goal-setting strategies. Learn about different types of savings and investment products, evaluate your risk tolerance and explore investment timelines.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulting10110-18-23](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulting10110-18-23)

### October 23: Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series - Helping Youth Find Their Spark

*Online*

Explore ways 4-H volunteers can help youth find their spark within their 4-H experience. This session will be offered twice for the convenience of volunteers.

**12-1 p.m. session:** [www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-helping-youth-find-their-spark](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-helping-youth-find-their-spark)

**7-8 p.m. session:** [www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-helping-youth-find-their-spark7pm](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-helping-youth-find-their-spark7pm)

## SAVE THE DATE!

### November 10-12: Spectacular Youth Leadership Institute

Youth ages 13-19 are invited to this leadership program that will focus on service, community leadership, global leadership and more. Youth will stay at a Lansing area hotel, attend classes on MSU's campus and take part in service projects around the Lansing area. Registration coming soon.





# Wayne County 4-H'er Spotlight

- Meet Evelyn! A longtime 4-H'er in the community, Evelyn has much to boast about: from travelling nationally to compete with other equestrians, to being crowned Fair Princess, this Wayne County 4-H'er has certainly made her mark. Read her first-hand account of her experiences and future plans here!



Hello!

My name is Evelyn, I am 14 and a member of American Youth 4-H club in Wayne County. I have been a member since I was 5 years old and have shown horses every year since. My mom was a member of American Youth (AY) growing up, and the friends she made have become family. It was only natural that my siblings, Annabelle (11) and Woodson (7), and I would also be in AY!

I've always loved horses. 4-H offered me an opportunity to learn about the animal and showing, along with the responsibility of horse ownership through the protege program where I was paired with and mentored by an older club member. My love of horses only grew, and I ended up getting my own horse, Bubbles. Bubbles and I have competed in 4-H and other shows, including qualifying and attending the Western Dressage World Show in Oklahoma in 2022. This year my sister showed Bubbles and an AY alumni allowed me to lease her horse, Abby, to show. We really had a great year together!

This year I competed in the Wayne County's fair royalty program and won Wayne County Princess. Fair is always my favorite week of the year, and being able to have such a big role throughout the week and meet so many people this year made it even better! Following fair, I had the honor of representing our county at the 4-H Michigan Horse State Show with the horse I showed, Abby. Meeting and seeing other equestrians my age from across the state and showing together was really fun. I hope to get to go again.

My favorite 4-H memories are definitely late nights at fair with my club hanging out, doing scavenger hunts, watching my friends show their animals and getting together through the year to watch each other in other activities and shop for the family our club adopts every Christmas.

I plan to continue in 4-H at least through high school. In the future, I hope to be a collegiate equestrian while going to school to pursue law and or politics.

Evelyn, 2023.



# Wayne County 4-H Volunteer Spotlight

- Please extend a warm congratulations to Melissa Barnett LaForest, a 30-year Wayne County 4-H volunteer and recipient of the Michigan Farm Bureau 4-H Excellence in Agriculture award! Read more about her story here.



When asked to share her greatest reward as a 4-H volunteer leader, LaForest replied, "It'd be difficult to say but I could narrow it down to two things. The first being that I feel being a 4-H Leader has given me a way to feel that I can 'return the favor' to 4-H. I've always felt indebted to 4-H because it led me into my career as a Horse Trainer, Farm Owner & Riding Instructor. Secondly, 4-H has given me unlimited opportunity to share my love of horses with so many youth. It has always been important to me that future generations understand, love & care for horses the way I have my entire life."

LaForest is a long-time 4-H volunteer with a focus on horse showmanship and equestrianism. She has worked on advancing youth skills in many areas, including the protégé program, horse clinics, project RED, and coaching middle and high school equestrian teams. She is passionate about imparting knowledge onto youth interested in agricultural careers at an early age and stresses the importance of making safe choices and caring for their animals- the youth she educates are expected to learn how to properly handle, groom, and train their horses.

LaForest's leadership extends beyond youth equestrian education: she is a chairperson for Equine, was on the Fair Board, is the president of Wayne County Horse & Pony, and as president, created the Junior Board to educate youth on the parliamentary procedures of Fair Board for the future.

Recently, LaForest has headed up the Master Equestrian program for Wayne County. This program offers youth the opportunity to compete for the title of Master Equestrian, while expanding their knowledge of showmanship and equestrianism.

We are so happy to have such a passionate, knowledgeable, and caring individual be apart of the Wayne County 4-H family. We are excited to see where her future takes her and the youth she works with!





# WAYNE COUNTY 4-H ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Wayne County 4-H Crowdpower Campaign

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.

Your contribution will allow us to continue offering free and low-cost programs for more youth in Wayne County. Funds will be used to promote our programs more widely, purchase much-needed supplies and provide scholarships for youth to attend any of the fantastic 4-H programs offered statewide and nationally.

To make an online gift, click: [Wayne County 4-H Youth Development Program | Giving to Michigan State University \(msu.edu\)](https://msu.edu/wayne-county-4-h-youth-development-program)

To make a gift by mail, send to:

University Advancement  
 Spartan Way  
 535 Chestnut Road, Room 300  
 East Lansing, MI 48824

\*Make check payable to Michigan State University and write "Appeal 24OOPCF1WAYN" in the note section.



**Talent is everywhere. Opportunity is not. Help 4-H provide equal opportunity for all Wayne County kids, no matter their circumstances.**



# WAYNE COUNTY 4-H ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Cards for a Cause

Special occasions, from holidays to birthdays, are always made better with a card! If you want to give someone you care for while contributing to a great cause, join the Cards for a Cause fundraiser! When you purchase a Cards for Cause box, your contribution goes directly towards supporting the youth of Wayne County. Your help allows us to continue providing fun and educational programming for youth in our community. See below for more details!

- Each Cards for a Cause box contains 30 cards, with five different boxes to choose from:
  - **All Occasion Box #1** comes in a charming organizer box and includes 30 assorted cards to meet most needs, from birthdays to new homes, get-well to weddings — with colored matching envelopes.
  - **All Occasion Box #2** comes in a charming organizer box and includes 30 assorted cards to meet most needs, from birthdays to new homes, get-well to weddings — with colored matching envelopes.
  - **Thanks & Blanks Box** is full of 30 unique handcrafted greeting cards with colored envelopes. Includes both blank cards and thank you cards.
  - **Kids Birthday Box** includes 30 Happy Birthday cards for kids of all ages, with lots of fun details and colorful envelopes to match.
  - **Holiday Cards Box** comes with 50 assorted cards for the holidays! Full of individually designed cards in a keepsake box, complete with white envelopes. Includes cards for most major holidays including: New Year's, Valentine's Day, Easter, Halloween, Hanukkah, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and many more!
- Each box costs \$30.
- Please contact your 4-H Program Coordinator or Instructor to make payment and other arrangements.

