



JANUARY 2023

# 4-H Family News

## GRATIOT COUNTY, MICHIGAN



### HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

I hope all of you had a great holiday season.

Check out the updates on pages 3 and 4 to see how Gratiot County 4-H got in on the holiday fun! We participated in the "Come Home to Alma" Christmas parade, got creative making crafts, and spent some time volunteering around the community.

Moving into 2023, we are looking at launching several new programs. Please check out the information about livestock judging below and complete our summer camp interest survey (link on page 2).

There are many great state and national events coming up. Check them out on pages 5 - 8. Keep in mind many of these require pre-registration, so be sure to plan ahead. District 8 is also planning a leader meet on February 25<sup>th</sup>. This is a great opportunity to obtain resources and ideas to take back to your clubs. More info is on page 2 and registration will open soon. I hope to see many of our leaders there.

Have a great 2023!

Stacey Woggon  
4-H Program Coordinator

### CONTACT US

Stacey Woggon  
4-H Program Coordinator

Gratiot County MSUE Office  
219 N. State Street  
Alma, Michigan  
48801

### PHONE & EMAIL:

(989) 875 – 5233  
woggonst@msu.edu

### WEBSITE:

[https://www.canr.msu.edu/gratiot/gratiot\\_county\\_4\\_h/](https://www.canr.msu.edu/gratiot/gratiot_county_4_h/)

### NEW LIVESTOCK JUDGING PROGRAM!



We are excited to announce that Gratiot County 4-H is starting a livestock judging program! This will be set up as a project club - youth will be able to join livestock judging as a standalone club or in addition to their 4-H community club. The focus is on animal evaluation and helping prepare youth to attend judging contests, such as the State 4-H/FFA Livestock Judging Contest in July. A huge thank you to Angie Lake for stepping up to coach!

The first meeting will be held January 14, 2023 at 1:30pm at New Haven Brethren Church Gym. Please fill out the following form if you are interested in signing up or learning more: <https://forms.gle/jimpoN67maqQ45Fy8>

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# COUNTY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Livestock Judging Meeting.....Jan. 14, 2023 @ 1:30pm, New Haven Brethren Church
- MLK Day – Office Closed.....Jan. 16, 2023
- 4-H Council Meeting.....Jan. 30, 2023 @ 7pm, Extension Office
- D8 Leader Meet.....Feb. 25, 2023, MSU Campus
- 4-H Council Meeting.....Feb. 27, 2023 @ 7pm, Extension Office

## UPCOMING LEADER MEET!

District 8 is planning a leader meet on February 25<sup>th</sup> at MSU. We will be diving into some of the curriculum available through Extension and best practices for re-engagement. This is a great networking and learning opportunity that will give you concrete resources and ideas to take back to your clubs. The leader meet is open to all Gold Volunteers and teen leaders. Save the date and plan to attend!

## Summer Camp Interest Survey



We are looking into bringing back a Gratiot County 4-H camp program this summer. Please fill out the following survey if you have a youth interested in attending and/or are interested in volunteering for camp. Thank you!

<https://forms.gle/FY12uaolMy1Y7Nbi9>

Do you have club updates, event photos, or other information you'd like to share in our monthly newsletter and/or on our social media? Please send any updates to Stacey ([woggonst@msu.edu](mailto:woggonst@msu.edu)) by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month prior (for instance, by January 20<sup>th</sup> for the February newsletter) to be featured. We look forward to sharing what you are up to!







# COUNTY 4-H NEWS

## “COME HOME TO ALMA” CHRISTMAS PARADE

Gratiot County 4-H had a great time participating in the “Come Home to Alma” Christmas Parade on December 9<sup>th</sup>! Members and their families decorated a pick-up truck, walked with banners and yard signs, and handed out 4-H bookmarks with candy canes. Thank you to everyone who joined us and helped to promote 4-H in the community.



## HOLIDAY VOLUNTEERING

Many Gratiot County 4-H Clubs were busy this holiday season using their hands to help out in their communities. Pictured below and left are members of Circle B volunteering as elves at the Village of Ashley Country Christmas. Pictured below and right are members of Somethin' Special singing Christmas carols for nursing home residents.







# COUNTY 4-H NEWS

## NEW YEAR, UPDATED WEBSITE!

Our Gratiot County 4-H Website has been updated! Visit us online for enrollment info, club forms and resources, event links, and more.

[https://www.canr.msu.edu/gratiot/gratiot\\_county\\_4\\_h/](https://www.canr.msu.edu/gratiot/gratiot_county_4_h/)



## HOLIDAY CRAFT CLASSES

Despite the busy holiday season, we were able to hold two holiday craft classes! 4-Her's had fun making glitter ornaments on December 13<sup>th</sup> and string Christmas trees on December 20<sup>th</sup>.







# STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## Save the date for Michigan 4-H equine events



Michigan 4-H equine programs are gearing up for a busy year! If you are an equine enthusiast, be sure to mark your calendar for these dates and look for additional information in the weeks and months ahead.

- February 3-4:  
Horse Judging  
Workshop and  
Practice Contest
- March 18:  
Michigan 4-H  
Hippology Contest
- April 15:  
Hairy Horse Show
- April 16:  
Michigan 4-H/FFA  
Horse Judging  
Contest
- August 18-20:  
State 4-H Horse  
Show

For more information on events, [www.canr.msu.edu/horses\\_ponies/registration-information](http://www.canr.msu.edu/horses_ponies/registration-information).

### January 10: Wild Spartans - Working Towards a Career as a Wildlife Biologist

*Online*

Meet Erin Johnston, wildlife biologist - wildlife and habitat section lead for the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community with the Michigan Natural Resources Department. Learn about researching, managing and protecting species with cultural significance, as well as Johnston's field work, and the education and career path she followed.

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

### January 14 – 15: Michigan 4-H Horse Judges and Show Volunteers Conference

*MSU Pavilion, Lansing*

This annual event is open to all judges, horse show managers and adult volunteers.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-horse-judges-and-show-volunteers-conference](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-horse-judges-and-show-volunteers-conference)

### January 16-20: 2023 National 4-H Shooting Sports Quiz Bowl

*Online*

4-H members test their shooting sports and natural resources knowledge with peers across the nation. Registration should open around Jan. 1.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/2023-national-4-h-shooting-sports-quiz-bowl](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/2023-national-4-h-shooting-sports-quiz-bowl)

### January 28: State 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Show

*MSU Pavilion, Lansing*

This one-day event is open to participants aged 8 to 19. To enter, exhibitors must be Michigan 4-H members and own the rabbits or cavies they enter.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/state-4-h-rabbit-cavy-show-2023](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/state-4-h-rabbit-cavy-show-2023)

### January 31: Adulting 101- International Conversations

*Online*

Join us for an engaging cultural conversation live and learn about another county. Gain new knowledge and ask questions that interest you with an international guest.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulting-101-international-conversations](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulting-101-international-conversations)

### February 11: 4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Certification Workshop

*Paw Paw Conservation Club, Paw Paw*

Interested in leading Hunting & Wildlife shooting sports with a 4-H club? Become a Certified Instructor at this one-day, hybrid workshop! Registration closes Feb. 1.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-shooting-sports-instructor-certification-workshop-pawpaw](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-shooting-sports-instructor-certification-workshop-pawpaw)





# STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS



## Michigan 4-H Day at the Breslin Center

Make plans to join us for the seventeenth annual celebration of MSU Extension 4-H Youth Development at the MSU Women's Basketball game. The Spartans will host the Penn State Nittany Lions on Sunday, February 12, at the Jack Breslin Student Events Center on MSU's campus. Tip-off is 3 p.m. with gates opening to the public at 1:30 p.m. come early to enjoy all the fun activities going on around the concourse.

Gather with 4-H friends, families, volunteers and staff for this annual event! Tickets are now available at

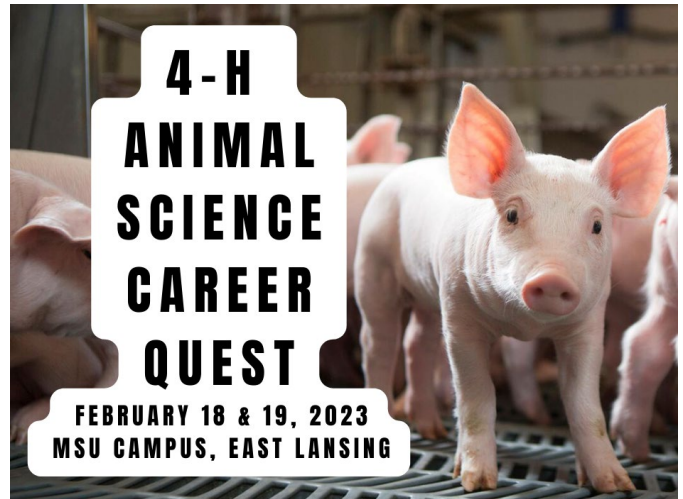
[https://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?eventID=A10AA911F2B34C51B1EBD2F04F224C27B69A1CD5A4A4DCD3C9BC54E11CC3F314&fbclid=IwAR3pacAqbNqDOBHJqLTyRST\\_DohaVKzu5VYOsznEYwFAN30xq6MBIsqcDso](https://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?eventID=A10AA911F2B34C51B1EBD2F04F224C27B69A1CD5A4A4DCD3C9BC54E11CC3F314&fbclid=IwAR3pacAqbNqDOBHJqLTyRST_DohaVKzu5VYOsznEYwFAN30xq6MBIsqcDso)

## Registration is now open for 4-H Animal Science Career Quest!

Are you interested in a career working with animals? Join us for 4-H Animal Science Career Quest to learn more about career paths in animal science and veterinary medicine, as well as the MSU programs that can get you there! This program is a joint effort between Michigan 4-H, the MSU Department of Animal Science, and the MSU College of Veterinary Medicine, and its focus is introducing youth to the wide variety of career options available to them within these fields.

This event will be on February 18-19 on MSU's main campus in East Lansing. It is open to youth ages 12-19 and 4-H volunteers, and participants can choose to attend one or both days. Space is limited, so don't delay! Register now at

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/animal-science-career-quest>.



## Extended registration deadline for CWF!



One week. SO many experiences.



June 24-30, 2023



Learning about our nation's history empowers today's youth to forge a brighter future. What better place to do that than Washington, DC! Teens, ages 14-19, are invited to join the Michigan 4-H delegation from June 24th to 30th, 2023 for the week-long trip. Experience Washington, DC like never before or ever again. With a tour guide providing background information for many monuments and programs that teach life skills such as civil discourse and critical thinking, youth will be able to use their voice and expand their horizons. Cost is \$2000 and 7 meals enroute. Gratiot County youth can apply for a scholarship through 4-H council to offset the cost. Contact Stacey (woggonst@msu.edu) if you are interested in attending. Registration and \$500 deposits are now due by January 9<sup>th</sup>. More info at [https://www.canr.msu.edu/citizenship\\_washington\\_focus/index](https://www.canr.msu.edu/citizenship_washington_focus/index)





# STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

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## ADULTING 101 JANUARY-APRIL 2023



- 1-31 @ 5pm-International Conversations
- 2-23 @ 6pm-Insurance 101
- 3-16 @ 4pm-Paycheck and Taxes
- 4-12 @ 6pm-Build & Protect your Credit

Register at:  
<https://events.anr.msu.edu/AdultingW2023/>



## Adulting 101 Series

MSU Extension's Adulting 101 program will be starting up again in January. Our FREE monthly series will begin on January 31 at 5:00 pm ET with International Conversation. Join us for an engaging cultural conversation live and learn about another country. Gain new knowledge and ask questions that interest you with an international guest. Sign up for this class and many more here:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulting101w23>

## Michigan 4-H Livestock Workshop

Mark your calendars for the Michigan 4-H Livestock Workshop. This event will be on Saturday, March 4th at MSU's Anthony Hall. The statewide livestock and goat programming committees are hard at work planning an awesome educational opportunity for 4-H teens in beef, sheep, swine, and goat projects. Registration information and a detailed schedule will be available soon.

Join us for the  
**Michigan 4-H Livestock Workshop**  
beef, sheep, swine, goats

**Saturday, March 4th, 2023**  
MSU Anthony Hall, East Lansing

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## Save the Date

State 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Show  
Saturday, January 28, 2023

MSU Pavilion for Agriculture  
and Livestock Education

4301 Farm Ln  
East Lansing, MI



Enter Day of Show



## State 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Show

Don't miss the State 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Show being held January 28<sup>th</sup> at the MSU Pavilion. This one-day event is open to participants aged 8 to 19. To enter, exhibitors must be Michigan 4-H members and own the rabbits or cavies they enter. There will also be a special "share your animal time" for cloverbuds. Register day of show: \$4 per rabbit or cavy class. Learn more and view the show catalog at <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/state-4-h-rabbit-cavy-show-2023>



# STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

## 2023 SKILLATHON

*The Third Annual*

### Michigan 4-H State Championship

*Competition of Knowledge and Comprehension of Animal Science and Livestock Management Practices*

March 4 and 11, 2023 - Qualifiers  
March 18, 2023 - State Championship



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## 2023 Skillathon

Every March, Michigan 4-H hosts the most comprehensive test of livestock and traditional farm animals in the nation. This is an annual competition that tests both youth and adult competitors' knowledge of market livestock, animal science, and management practices in 10 separate categories. Qualifier dates are March 4 and 11, 2023 with the State Championship taking place March 18<sup>th</sup>. The Skillathon is open to Michigan youth (8-19 years old as of Jan. 1, 2023) and adults.

Registration details and additional information will be forthcoming: <http://www.canr.msu.edu/otsego/4-h/2023-Skillathon>

## Additional Dates to Save

- March 3-5 – Michigan 4-H Dairy Conference
- May 11 – World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute
- June 17 – Michigan 4-H State Goat Show
- June 21- 23 – 4-H Exploration Days
- August 12 – Michigan 4-H State Dog Show
- August 19 – Michigan 4-H State Shooting Sports Tournament.

For the most updated event listings visit <https://www.canr.msu.edu/4h/Events/>





# STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

## Resolve to have a great 4-H year

*Authored by Christine Heverly, MSU Extension.*

*Adapted from an article originally published by Sandy Risedorph.*

As we start to think ahead to the New Year, how can 4-H clubs resolve to improve in the year ahead? Here are ten suggestions to make the upcoming year a successful one.

Resolve that:

1. Club meetings will start and end on time.
2. Business meetings will follow Robert's Rules of Order and that all club paperwork, such as minutes, club inventory and financial statements, will be completed in a timely manner.
3. All members will take part in discussions and have a say in decisions that are made. Keep a chart with each members' name and when they speak at business meetings.
4. The club meeting place will be a safe, comfortable and welcoming environment for all club members.
5. Fun will be included in each meeting.
6. A learning activity will be included in each club meeting. Ideas include exploring a new 4-H curriculum, having members volunteer to do a demonstration, doing a show and tell about each members' favorite project, or bringing in a guest speaker.
7. The club will pursue at least one community service project chosen, planned and celebrated by the club.
8. New members will have a buddy they may talk with about any 4-H questions.
9. The 4-H pledge will be said at every meeting.
10. Every club member will be recognized in some way to let them know they are cared about.



**Mailing Panel**

**County Name**

**Address**

**City, State, Zip Code**

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# 4-H Family News

GRATIOT COUNTY, MICHIGAN

