



JANUARY 2023

4-H Family News

HILLSDALE COUNTY



Happy New Year!

The 4-H program is so large and the opportunities so vast that it can sometimes seem a little overwhelming when you are new.

Just keep in mind that your family's 4-H experience can be tailor-made to fit your goals, schedule and interests. That is one reason 4-H is such a great program. You can be involved as a whole family, learning and growing together.

When describing 4-H to someone new, we often use the analogy of a super department store. 4-H is like a "store" full of wonderful, fun, positive educational programs. It has pretty much every type of workshop, project, contest, trip, conference, camp, or activity you could possibly want or need. It is just up to your family to decide what and how much you want and to determine what things fit into your schedule and your budget. Your club leader and Extension staff members are like the "greeters" at the front of the store to help you find what you need. We are here to answer your questions, so please do not hesitate to call. Keep in mind that the leader in your club is a volunteer. Like all of us, your leader is more than willing to do his or her part, but your leader also wants help. Your club will be able to accomplish so much more if parents and guardians share some of the responsibilities with the leader. Ask your leader what you can do to support your child's club. If we all take a small piece of the pie, it makes everyone's involvement more manageable and fun!

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RE-ENROLL NOW!

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COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Hillsdale County Fair Awards & Recognition



Mary Dillion Memorial Award

Congratulations to Alice Hughes. She is this year's recipient of the Mary Dillon Memorial Award. Mary Dillon (1945- 2006) was a Hillsdale County 4-H Leader for 28 years. She coached Dairy Judging and Dairy Quiz Bowl teams. Mary exhibited cattle at many local, state, and national shows and was a passionate supporter of our county's dairy program. Mary encouraged 4-H/FFA members to learn more about dairy cattle and promote the dairy industry. The winner demonstrates leadership, a willingness to learn, a strong work ethic, citizenship, and responsibility.



SUPER SHOWMANSHIP

We want to recognize this year's Super Showmanship participants at the Hillsdale County Fair: Blake Bevers, Landen Clabaugh, Brodie Griffin, Naomi Haas, Sam Jones, Dixie McKibbin, Mariah Nortley, Chloe Stalhood, Ben Wheeler, and Sarah Wheeler. Super showmanship is a contest for 4-H members, where the showmanship winners of each species compete against each other. The contestants invest significant time and energy in preparation. They each have worked hard for their achievements. This year's winner was Sam Jones. **Congratulations Sam!!**





COUNTY 4-H NEWS

State Recognition & Awards

CONGRATULATIONS TO BRODY TINKEY!!!

Brody has been elected into the State Youth Leadership Committee!

What is SYLC?

Established in 2015, the Michigan 4-H State Youth Leadership Council is a statewide leadership opportunity for 4-H youth. SYLC 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.

Who is eligible?

Any 4-H participant, age 15-19 by January 1, 2023, can apply for a council position. They must be currently enrolled in a 4-H program, in good standing in their local 4-H club or unit, and have completed at least the previous year of 4-H work. Youth are selected for the council by application and interview with a state committee of MSU Extension staff and current SYLC members.

SYLC member terms are two years.

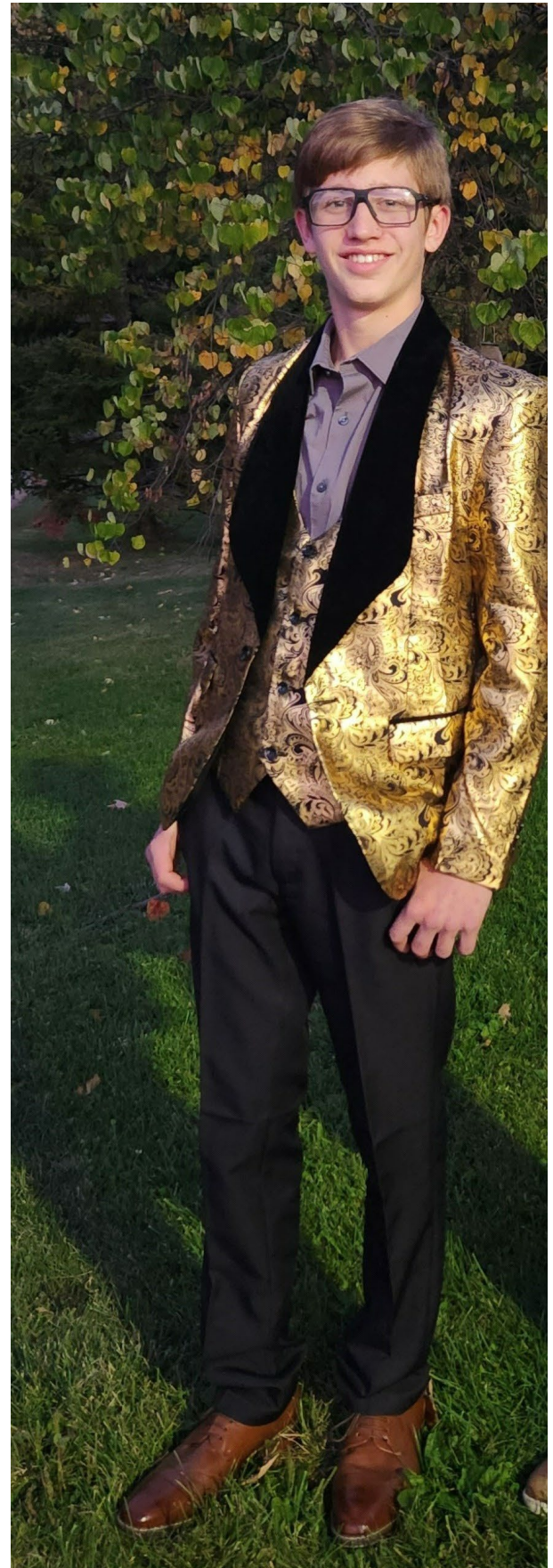
Why would youth be interested in SYLC?

SYLC members receive training on 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.

How do youth apply? Interested youth should complete the electronic application, posted online at <http://msue.anr.msu.edu/program/info/sylc> once it is active.

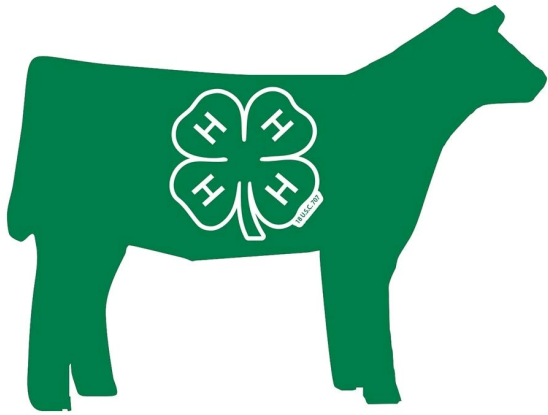
Applicants must also select two unrelated adults to complete a reference. Selected applicants will be contacted by SYLC advisors to arrange time for an interview following the closing date.

How does SYLC benefit Michigan 4-H? Michigan 4-H believes that youth should be participants, rather than recipients in the learning process. Staff teach volunteers about strengthening youth voice and youth-adult partnerships at the club and county level. SYLC provides an outlet for youth voice at the state level. As staff plan new programs, design promotional tools or create curriculum geared at high-school age groups, contact the SYLC advisors and ask to get on an upcoming SYLC agenda.





COUNTY 4-H NEWS



It is with a heavy heart I must report that Mark Geib has resigned as the Beef Superintendent. Mark has dedicated over 10 years to the 4-H program and will be greatly missed. Michigan State University Extension would like to thank Mark for his dedication to the program and the knowledge he leaves behind.

If anyone is interested in taking on the role as Beef Superintendent, please contact the MSU Extension office.

Some Hillsdale County 4-H members participated in the Ingham County Rabbit Show January 7th.

Showmanship winners:
Senior Class- Daisy Rogers- 5th place
Intermediate Class- Bailey Gerth- 2nd place
Intermediate Class - Veronica Tinkey - 1st place



Please make sure you re-enroll in 4-H Online! You must re-enroll every year to remain. [ENROLL NOW](#)



COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Council, Committees, and Club News

Hillsdale County 4-H Council-

Council would like to thank everyone that signed up and volunteered in the 4-H Kitchen this year. After being closed for two years it was great to have the kitchen back up and running! If you are interested in joining The Hillsdale County 4-H Council, please call the MSU Extension Office for more information. Also, council still has t-shirts available for purchase at the MSU Extension Office. They are now \$12!! (Limited sizes available)



Hillsdale County Horse Leaders Committee-

As president of Hillsdale Horse Leaders and the 4-H equine superintendent, I would like to take the time to publicly acknowledge all our sponsors and donors that ensured our 4-H kids would have a successful fair week. Thank you to GreenMark Equipment for the tractor donation and Aaron Clark for maintaining the arena throughout the week. G&D Wood Products and Hillsdale Pallet for their generous donations of sawdust. Thank you to Kelsey Caldwell Agency-Farm Bureau Insurance for the awesome prize buckets and helping with both shows. Rakers Roberta's for the beautiful mum donations. George Sobell for the wonderful photos. Thank you, Hillsdale County Community Foundation for the purchase of our new arena sound system. Thank you to all the Hillsdale Fair Staff for accommodating our growing program and allowing us to fill two barns. Finally, thank you to all my MSUE staff, volunteers, parents, and 4-H kids who helped make both shows and fair week successful. Hillsdale Horse Leaders is looking forward to another great year adding in some shows and continuing to grow our horse program!



Photos by [Sobell Photography](#)





COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Council, Committees, and Club News



Photo by [Sobell Photography](#)

Hillsdale County Small Animal Committee

On behalf of the Small Animal Committee, we would like to thank all of the youth, parents, club leaders, volunteers, MSU Extension, and the Hillsdale County Fair Board for working together to have a successful 2022 Hillsdale County Small Animal Program. We would like to also thank our community for another incredible year supporting the Small Animal Auction. We look forward to what all 2023 has in store for our program – including the exciting new relaunch of our Youth Superintendent Program and educational workshops for all Small Animal species (rabbits, cavies, poultry, goats, and dogs)! Please contact MSUE and follow our Facebook page for upcoming events and information.

Are you interested in becoming a 4-H volunteer?

[APPLY TODAY](#)





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.

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

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

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

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

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

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





2023 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 will soon be available at: www.canr.msu.edu/events/msu-extension-day-at-the-breslin-featuring-michigan-4-h.

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>.



Registration is now open for Citizen Washington Focus!



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. To sign up, contact your county MSU Extension 4-H Program Coordinator (<http://msue.anr.msu.edu/county>) or Liana Pepin at deisenro@msu.edu.



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



MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY | Extension



2023 Michigan Skill-A-Thon

While other state 4-H programs have similar offerings, 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. The Skillathon is open to Michigan youth (8-19 years old as of Jan. 1, 2023) and adults.

For more information please visit the Skillathon page:

<http://www.canr.msu.edu/otsego/4-h/2023-Skillathon>

Or email us at: 4HSkillathon@msu.edu

Registration is now open for 2023 Outbound Programs!

We are accepting applications for the Summer 2023 Outbound Programs! Explore a new country and culture via an immersive international exchange experience. Michigan 4-H has been in a partnership with States' 4-H International Exchange Programs for many years. States' 4-H Summer Outbound programs provide American 4-H youth with the opportunity to travel to foreign countries for a month-long cultural immersion experience. Delegates live with volunteer host families and engage in experiential learning about a new way of life. Delegates experience aspects of daily life that allow them to understand both their host culture and their own culture more deeply. Our network of like-minded international partners recruits host families and plan enrichment activities. Enrich your 4-H experience and apply today to travel abroad summer 2023! Visit <https://www.states4hexchange.org/> to learn more.



States' 4-H International Exchange Programs

2023 OUTBOUND PROGRAMS

Costa Rica · Japan · South Korea



Costa Rica



Japan



South Korea



South Korea







Are you curious about daily life, culture, and youth programs in other countries?
Travel abroad with States' 4-H and enter a world that most tourists rarely get to see.



COUNTY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2023

January

11th	Horse Leaders Committee Meeting	6:00 p.m.
14th	Shooting Sports Informational Meeting	3:00 p.m.
16th	MSU Extension Hillsdale Office Closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day	
17th	Award Application Deadline	
23rd	4-H Council Meeting	7:00 p.m.
25th	YDFA Meeting	6:00 p.m.
30th	Large Animal Sale Committee Meeting	7:00 p.m.

8th	Horse Leaders Meeting	6:00 p.m.
12th	4-H Day at the Breslin Center	
13th	Junior Livestock Committee Meeting	7:00 p.m.

February

March

1st	Beef Possession Date	
4th	Cake Decorating	10:00 a.m.
7th	Small Animal Sale Committee Meeting	7:00 p.m.
8th	Horse Leaders Meeting	6:00 p.m.
11th	Mandatory Beef Weigh-in @ Fairgrounds	10:00 a.m.
19th	Shooting Sports Safety Meeting	4:00 p.m.