



# CLOVER CHRONICLES

February 2024

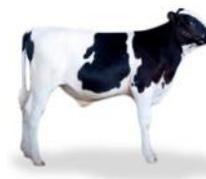
Isabella County

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## Dairy Feeder Weigh-In

Saturday, March 16  
7:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.  
Isabella County Fairgrounds



Animals cannot weigh over 250 lbs. and must be:

- One of the following breeds: Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Guernsey, Holstein, or Jersey
- Castrated & Dehorned

Each member can either:

- Weigh in a maximum of two feeders or,
- Within immediate families of more than one exhibitor; each member may weigh in one feeder, and one "family alternate" can be weighed in for the family. Only one feeder per exhibitor can be brought to fair when a family alternate has been weighed in.

It's required that by Fair, every feeder must have a RFID tag (radio frequency identification) in their ear. If you have any questions, contact Superintendent Mike Lattimer at (989) 513-7839.

## Small Animal Members & Families

You are invited to attend a session designed to share basics, tips, and processes which we hope will be helpful while preparing your animals to exhibit in the small animal barn for fair week. We have things to share but we also want to hear your input and address your questions. All small animal species will be represented in an effort to be the most beneficial to anyone who wishes to join us.

We are offering two different dates with each session lasting 45 min - 1 hour, and we will potentially offer species-specific breakout sessions to be the most beneficial for attendees. We are working to secure a location for these sessions, but the dates are currently set for **Tuesday, February 13, at 6:30 p.m. and Monday, March 11, at 6:30 p.m.**

The same information will be shared at each session, however, questions and input from attendees may vary. We plan to keep track of the information shared and will make it available a couple of weeks after the meetings for anyone who would like to read through the discussions.

Once a location is secured, we will send an email with those details. We hope you will join us!

Also, in May there will be educational opportunities offered for each small animal species in addition to the annual showmanship clinics that will be held in June and July. More details will be sent closer to date.

-Small Animal Superintendents



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18 U.S.C. 707

## CLUB CORNER

**Aim High** - Due to inclement weather, we did not have an in-person meeting but we "met" via the club Facebook page and displayed various art projects kids took to the fair. The goal was to give others ideas for projects as they start planning for 2024 fair exhibits. Suggestions, tips, and tricks were shared and it is an open opportunity to continue sharing this type of information. Members and their families also made cards for Commission on Aging's Love Box project to support this great local organization that does such great work in our community.

**Evergreen** - We are busy getting ready for our spaghetti supper! The spaghetti supper will be held on February 17th from 4:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. at the St. Henry's Parish Center.

## Attention Livestock Exhibitors

Reminder - your animals must have an RFID tag in at fair weigh-in or you will be at risk for being rejected.

## Fair Board News

Fair Camping Registration Forms are being mailed February 1. Watch your mail if you were a camper for the 2023 fair. Read the information carefully, payment and registration must reach Deb Acker on or before March 20<sup>th</sup>. We accept cash (exact amount), checks or debit and credit cards with a 3% fee. Camping is still \$150.00 for the week.

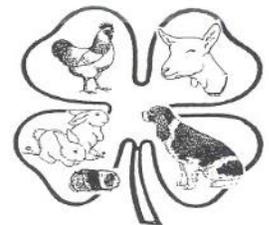
Camping site change will be on March 22 at the Fair Office from 9 a.m. – 10 a.m. Or you may call to see what is available after 10 a.m.

New camper sign up will be on March 23, 2024 at the Fair Office from 9 a.m. - 10 a.m. After that you may call to see what is available.

If you have any questions, please call Deb at 989-400-1082.

## Small Animal News

- Reminder, if you live outside of Isabella County and plan to sell in the small animal auction, you will need approval from the Small Animal Association. Plan to attend their next meeting on Wednesday, February 21 at 7:00 p.m. at First Church of Christ in Mt. Pleasant. If you have already met with the Small Animal Association to sell in the auction and were approved, you do not have to do it again.
- It's not too early to make arrangements to secure whatever small animal you wish to exhibit at the 2024 fair. Reach out to someone you have worked with in the past or contact the appropriate small animal superintendent for assistance. It has become more difficult over the past few years for kids to purchase their fair animals as they are not quite as available as they used to be.
- If you're a rabbit member and still looking for your fair project, the State Rabbit Convention is a good resource. It's held March 1 - 3 at the MSU Pavilion in East Lansing. It would be great place to find rabbits for fair. The earlier you go, the better chance of finding good options. <https://msrba.net/show-schedule/>



## 4-H Calendars Now Available

4-H calendars are now available at the Extension office. Stop by and get one!

# Isabella County 4-H Council is pleased to be able to offer Youth Mental Health First Aid training

(4-H Council will pay for this training for Gold Volunteers)

Space is limited to the first 25 Gold Volunteers that sign-up. We need a minimum of 10 to hold the training.

There will be some required pre-reading sent out one week before the training starts.



## Youth Mental Health First Aid Training (virtual)

### March 4 & 6

### 6 PM - 9 PM

To register: email [schrei61@msu.edu](mailto:schrei61@msu.edu) or call (989) 317-4079

**64.1%**  
of youth with major depression do not receive any mental HEALTH TREATMENT.

*Mental Health America*

**1 in 5**  
teens & young adults lives with a mental HEALTH CONDITION.

*National Alliance for Mental Illness*

**5.13%**  
of youth report having a substance use or ALCOHOL PROBLEM.

*Mental Health America*

## Why Youth Mental Health First Aid?

Youth Mental Health First Aid teaches you **how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illnesses and substance use disorders.** This 8-hour training gives adults who work with youth the skills they need to reach out and provide initial support to adolescents (ages 12-18) who may be developing a mental health or substance use problem and help connect them to the appropriate care.

### WHAT IT COVERS

- Common signs and symptoms of mental illnesses in this age group, including:
  - Anxiety
  - Depression
  - Eating disorders
  - Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)
- Common signs and symptoms of substance use.
- How to interact with an adolescent in crisis.
- How to connect the adolescent with help.

### WHO SHOULD TAKE IT

- Teachers
- School staff
- Coaches
- Camp counselors
- Youth group leaders
- Parents
- People who work with youth

### The course will teach you how to apply the ALGEE action plan:

- **Assess** for risk of suicide or harm
- **Listen** nonjudgmentally
- **Give** reassurance and information
- **Encourage** appropriate professional help
- **Encourage** self-help and other support strategies

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MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID®

**“As adults, we sometimes forget how hard it was being an adolescent. When we see a kid who is just miserable at school, we might think they choose to be that way — or that it’s just part of adolescence. But in fact, they might be in a mental health crisis, one they certainly did not choose and do not want. When a teacher says, ‘How can I be helpful?’ that is a powerful question.”**

—Alyssa Fruchtenicht, School-based Mental Health Counselor

## RUNNING FOR THE 2024-2025 ISABELLA COUNTY 4-H

# ROYAL AMBASSADOR PROGRAM



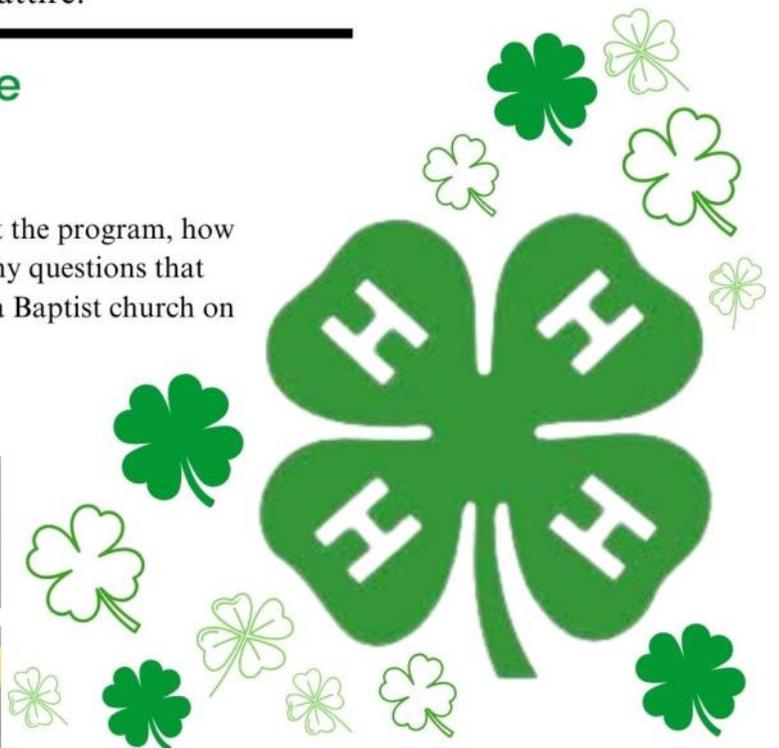
## WHAT IS THE ROYAL AMBASSADOR PROGRAM?

The Royal Ambassador program allows Isabella County 4Hers to represent and build relationships throughout the Isabella County area. Our ambassador leaders can learn in various areas, from projects to community opportunities throughout the year. Ambassadors will use public speaking and brainstorming, participating in multiple events throughout the fair week and the community. Royal Ambassadors will receive financial scholarships and attire.

### Want to Learn more about the program and how to run?

We will be having a information meeting to talk about the program, how to run, what you do as a representative, and answer any questions that you may have. This meeting will be held at Maranatha Baptist church on February 20th, 2024 at 7 PM.

Address: 5282 E Airport Rd, Mt Pleasant, MI 48858





## HOW TO RUN ?



### *Junior* (Age 8-11)

- Packet and Questions
- Write a one page letter and properly address it to our 4-H Coordinator
- 10 Minute Interview with a Visual Aid

### *Intermediate* (Age 12-15)

- Packet and Questions
- Write a 2 Page Essay
- 10 Minute Interview with a Visual Aid

### *Senior* (Age 16-19)

- Packet and Questions
- Cover letter, Resume, and 3 References
- 10 Minute Interview with a Visual Aid

Packet will be out on January 15th, 2024

Head to our Isabella County 4-H Extension page at:

[https://www.canr.msu.edu/isabella/isabella\\_county\\_4\\_h/newsletters-and-forms](https://www.canr.msu.edu/isabella/isabella_county_4_h/newsletters-and-forms)

Under Forms you will then go to the rewards section, and all of the different age group packets will be listed.

## HOW MANY PEOPLE WILL BE ON COURT

There will be 6 Representatives!

### SENIORS

- King/Queen Royal Ambassador
- 1st Runner-up King or Queen Royal Ambassador

### INTERMEDIATE

- Prince/Princess Royal Ambassador
- 1st Runner-up Prince/Princess Royal Ambassador

### Junior

- Duke/Duchess Royal Ambassador
- 1st Runner-up Duke/Duchess Royal Ambassador



## Join Michigan 4-H for the Winter/Spring 2024 Adulthood 101 Series

Fostering Happy and Healthy  
Relationships- February 12 at 5pm



Keeping Your Money Safe-  
March 19 at 6pm



Cover Letter and Resume  
Writing- April 10 at 6pm



Build and Protect Your  
Credit- May 15 at 5pm



**Webinars are free. Register online.**

**MICHIGAN STATE**  
UNIVERSITY

**Extension**



**Are you getting ready to move out on your own?  
MSU Extension offers some “Adulthood 101” classes that can  
help. Enhance your financial knowledge, your  
workforce readiness and even your relationships  
with one of these upcoming classes.**

**All webinars are free, just register online at:**

**<https://events.anr.msu.edu/Adulthood2024/>**



# Youth Show Swine Workshop

## DATE & TIME:

- February 18, 2024
- Presentations from 1 pm until 4 pm

## LOCATION:

- Gratiot County MSU Extension Office
- 219 N State St Alma, MI 48801

## COST and

## REGISTRATION:

- Cost is \$10
- Registration at MSU Extension office
- Cash or Checks Only
- Checks made out to: Gratiot 4-H Council

## SPONSORS:

- MSUE Extension Gratiot County
- Gratiot 4-H Council

**Stay tuned for a spring showmanship and judging workshop day!**



## WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

This event is open to all youth from ages 5 to 19 years old. Parents also welcome to attend sessions.

## DESCRIPTION:

This event is an afternoon of swine presentations for youth looking at showing pigs, whether you are a beginner or a veteran showman. The topics for this session include;

Selecting your Show Pig

Basic Pig Nutrition

I bought a pig, now what?!

## HOW TO REGISTER:

Registration link is below. **Registration Deadline is February 12, 2024**  
Cash or checks are accepted for payment. Check can be made out to: Gratiot 4-H Council.

## CONTACT:

Kami Paksi  
219 N State St  
Alma MI, 48801  
(989) 875-5234

## REGISTRATION LINK:

<https://bit.ly/3u23JoA> or



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# STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## Get free tickets for Michigan 4-H Day at the Breslin!



Make plans for a fun day in East Lansing on February 24! Join with other members of the 4-H community for Michigan 4-H Day at the Breslin. This fun family event will be held at the Jack Breslin Student Events Center as the MSU women's basketball team takes on the Rutgers Scarlet Knights.

Attendees will also enjoy 4-H games and activities around the concourse. Tickets are free to 4-H youth and their families as well as 4-H volunteers and their families. In addition, Michigan 4-H will be showcased during the halftime show as a group of 4-H youth will lead the crowd in reciting the 4-H pledge.

Doors will open at 12:30 p.m., with tip-off scheduled for 2 p.m. Participants are encouraged to show their pride and wear green and white 4-H or MSU Extension apparel.

For more information and to get tickets, visit [www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-day-at-the-breslin](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-day-at-the-breslin).

### February 7: Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar - Engaging 4-H Youth in Animal Science Education

Online

Explore ways 4-H volunteers can utilize curriculum and resources to engage 4-H youth in animal science education. This series will provide 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.

- **12 p.m. session:** [www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-engaging-4-h-youth-in-animal-science-education](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-engaging-4-h-youth-in-animal-science-education)
- **7 p.m. session:** [www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-engaging-4-h-youth-in-animal-science-education7pm](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-engaging-4-h-youth-in-animal-science-education7pm)

### February 12: Fostering Happy and Healthy Relationships

Online

The 4-H Adulting 101 series helps young people prepare for college or life on their own through free online sessions. Join this session to explore healthy relationship models that can enhance your future and current bonds.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/relationships-1](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/relationships-1)

### February 13: 4-H Wild Spartans – Seeing the Forest for the Wildlife

Online

This month's 4-H Wild Spartans Series will wade with waterfowl and explore forests. Meet Jeremiah Heise, ecosystem program manager with the U.S. Forest Service, learn about his field work, and the education and career path he followed to get there. This free series is open to 4-H and non-4-H youth ages 12-19.

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

### March 2: Michigan 4-H Spring Livestock Workshop

Anthony Hall, East Lansing

This one-day workshop is designed for 4-H teens and volunteers in beef, sheep, goats and swine project areas. Youth will learn about different aspects of their livestock projects throughout a variety of sessions.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-spring-livestock-workshop-2024](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-spring-livestock-workshop-2024)

### March 6 and 9: Michigan 4-H Animal Science Skillathon

Online

This competition tests both youth and adult competitors' knowledge of market livestock, animal science, and management practices in various categories. Competitors can choose to compete during the week or on the weekend. Registration closes Feb. 29.

[www.canr.msu.edu/otsego/4-h/2024-Skillathon](http://www.canr.msu.edu/otsego/4-h/2024-Skillathon)





# STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS



## Register today for Michigan 4-H Capitol Experience!

At Michigan 4-H Capitol Experience, teens learn how to change the world for the better through engagement in Michigan's state government and public policy process. The program is scheduled for March 17-19, in Lansing. The three-day event, open to high school-aged youth, includes tours of the Michigan Capitol, interactions with state legislators, meetings with state agency staff, lobbyists and state-level experts, and learning how policy is made. During the program, youth work in small teams to draft legislation on agriculture, civil rights and youth advocacy, crime and law enforcement, education and teacher retention, environment and natural resources, health, or jobs and the economy/infrastructure.

The cost to register in 2024 is \$365, which includes meals and lodging at the Quality Inn University in Lansing. Contact your local 4-H program coordinator to inquire about local funding opportunities. Scholarships may also be available through your local Farm Bureau office. To register or learn more, visit [www.canr.msu.edu/4\\_h\\_capitol\\_experience/](http://www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_capitol_experience/)

## Make a difference for food security with World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute

As millions across the globe deal with food insecurity, the World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute (WFP MIYI) offers young people an opportunity to be part of the solution. Held May 9 in East Lansing, or by participating from anywhere else using Zoom video/web conference technology, the event seeks to inspire and prepare the next generation of global leaders to end world hunger.



To participate, youth should be in grades 7-12 and register by the March 15 deadline. As part of the registration process, youth are required to prepare and submit a 2-to-5-page research paper about a developing country and one of 20 key factors that affect food security. At the event, youth present and discuss their papers with other attendees and research and industry experts. The top performing students at the WFP MIYI will be selected to attend the World Food Prize Global Youth Institute in Des Moines, Iowa, in October.

There is no cost to participate in the WFP MIYI. For more information, visit [www.canr.msu.edu/wfpmiyi/](http://www.canr.msu.edu/wfpmiyi/)



## Apply for a Michigan 4-H State Award!

Michigan 4-H true leaders ages 11 and older have an opportunity to be recognized for the great work they do in 4-H and develop their career skills by completing a state award application. A Michigan 4-H State Award is the highest honor bestowed on a Michigan 4-H member and provides an opportunity to receive recognition for their engagement in rich learning experiences that result in outstanding knowledge and life-skill development.

State award applications are divided into four categories: Mark of Excellence essay contest (11-12 years), junior state award (13-15 years), senior state award (16-19 years) and group awards (13-19 years). Each application and selection process varies, dependent on the age of the 4-H member. Additional details about the Michigan 4-H State Award process can be found at <http://bit.ly/stateaward>

Applications are due April 1. For more information, contact your 4-H program coordinator or email Betty Jo Krosnicki at [nashbett@msu.edu](mailto:nashbett@msu.edu) or Janice Zerbe at [rajzerj@msu.edu](mailto:rajzerj@msu.edu).

Isabella County  
510 W. Pickard Street  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Phone: (989) 317-4079  
Fax: (989) 773-1622

Website:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/isabella/>



<https://www.facebook.com/IsabellaCounty4H/>

**Get Text Reminders**

To receive 4-H reminder text messages (via Remind App) with important dates and times of Isabella County 4-H events:

Text “@6c82ek6” to “81010”

**SAVE THE DATES**

**Dairy Feeder Weigh-In**  
March 16

**Shooting Sports Kick-off Event**  
April 13

**Swine Tagging**  
May 5  
11 am - 1 pm

**Sheep Weigh-In**  
May 11  
9 am -11 am

**4-H Exploration Days at MSU**  
June 19-21

**Isabella County Youth & Farm Fair**  
July 20 - 27

**Isabella County 4-H Calendar**

February 6	Horse Leaders @ Maranatha Baptist Church, Mt. Pleasant	6:30 PM
19	County Building Closed	
21	Small Animal Association @ First Church of Christ, Mt. Pleasant	7 PM
22	Shooting Sports Committee @ Commission on Aging, room A	7 PM
27	4-H Council @ Lincoln Twp Hall	6:30 PM

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*“Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by contacting the MSU Extension office at (989) 317-4079 at least 7 days prior to the scheduled event to ensure sufficient time to make arrangements. Requests received after this time will be met when possible.”*

*Kristi Schreiber, 4-H Program Coordinator*  
[schrei61@msu.edu](mailto:schrei61@msu.edu)

Nonie Gross, Secretary  
Monica Jean, Field Crops Educator  
Eric Karbowski, District 6 Director  
Kara Lynch, Food Safety Educator  
Misty Oebel, Farm Stress Educator  
Sabrina McGee, SNAP-ED CNI